Provincial Exhibition 1888-1988

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ANNUAL 1987 REPORT

88-02683/

Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture Annual Report

For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1987
and Activities Report for the year ending
December 31, 1987

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ACTS

Pursuant to Executive Council Minute M37/84, the Department is responsible for the administration of the following Acts:

Agricultural Chemicals Act
Agricultural Standards Act
Agricultural Products Marketing Act
Agrologists Act
Apiary Inspection Act
Artificial Insemination Act
Bang's Disease Eradication Act
Crop Insurance Act
Dairy Producers Act
Dairy Products Act
Division Fence Act (repealed 1987)
Dog Act
Domestic Animals Act (repealed 1987)
Farm Implement Act
Federal Dairying Company Act
Fences and Detention of Stray Livestock Act
Field-Root Seeds Zoning Act
Grain Elevators Act
Land Development Corporation Act
Livestock Branding or Tattooing Act
Livestock Community Auction Sales Act
Margarine Act
Marketing Act
Milk Act
Mink Protection Act
Natural Products Marketing Act
Pesticides Control Act
Plant Disease Eradication Act
Potato Crop Mortgage Act
Potato Production Act
Poultry and Poultry Products Act
Racehorse Inspection Act
Veterinary Assistance Act
Veterinary Profession Act
Women's Institute Act

COVER PHOTO

Saluting the Provincial Exhibition's 100th year in 1988, our photo shows the exhibition grounds in Charlottetown circa 1910. The photo is taken from the B.H. "Jack" Turner Collection, Public Archives of Prince Edward Island.

Agriculture in 1987

The 1987 growing season was hotter and drier than normal in most areas of the province, although some isolated regions had ample rainfall. The grain crop enjoyed impressive yields with plenty of heat to assist the crop development. Differing reports were received on the potato harvest. The bulk of the 66,000 acre crop suffered in the drought with overall 1987 production down over two million hundred-weights. Record profits were achieved in the livestock sector as producers capitalized on opportunities of record high prices and cyclical low feed grain prices. Beef production dropped last year although strong prices strengthened profits for the sector.

Potatoes

The potato harvest experienced a substantial overall drop this crop year down to 15,600,000 hundredweights, a drop by more than two million from the 1986 crop. This production decline was attributed to the lack of rain reported by most areas of the province. Some regions were less affected than others, with a few reporting disastrous production. The 65,000 harvested acres yielded 240 hundredweights per acre. Early seed markets reported movement to be brisk while the traditional domestic table markets did not share the optimism.

Field Crops

The hot, dry summer contributed to good quality crops in all the major grains. Prices remained depressed due to global oversupply, and intervention of the major nations in the form of Government subsidies. Hay exports from Prince Edward Island continue to strengthen. Hay acreage increased significantly in 1987 to 136,000.

Berries

Strawberry yields dropped, but a good quality crop was harvested in 1987. Growth has been achieved in the exporting of strawberry plants. The blueberry crop production was much more plentiful than a year ago, although it was described as only an average crop. Average yields highlighted raspberry production.

Vegetables

The hot, dry summer was blamed for poor crop production of broccoli, cauliflower and beets. Other vegetables including lettuce, parsnips, sweet corn and cucumbers achieved normal production levels. Rutabagas, brussel sprouts, cabbage, squash, carrots, and parsnips yielded higher than expected.

Tobacco

The 1987 crop proved to be one of the most profitable for Island tobacco farmers. The yields achieved and the price received reached record levels. Production, due to the unusually high yields, left the producers in a large over-quota position.

Honey

Provincial honey production is declining. In 1987, the total number of colonies totalled 682 on 79 farms. Reports blame the drop in production on the ban on import of United States queen bees. Queen bees currently are imported from New Zealand.

Poultry & Eggs

Increases in consumer consumption of both poultry and eggs helped fuel expansion in these sectors. Canadian egg consumption in 1987 rose for one of the few times since 1972. Consumer purchases of chicken led the rise in poultry which recorded large rises in 1987.

Swine

The pork producers capitalized on low grain prices and high hog prices to record 1987 as the best year on record for hog production. Output expanded by greater than 10 per cent while prices achieved new records. The average price for the 1987 per hundredweight is $80.08. The average price for 1987 weaner pigs is estimated at $41.75. The industry sales figures for export or slaughter is $27.25 million.

Beef

Beef production dropped provincially and nationally in 1987. Producers reported above average profits for the year on high prices. High prices for competing products coupled with cheap feed supported this observation. Estimated average producer prices for 1987 for Island beef is $73.54 per hundredweight.

Fur

The fur industry experienced an excellent year in 1987. Farm Cash Receipts more than doubled to $2.5 million, attributable to increases in both prices and volumes. Pelts and breeding stock are the two most important areas of the island fur industry.

Sheep & Lambs

As of July 1, 1987, sheep and lambs had experienced yet another decline in farm population, this time dropping to 6,500 animals in total. This decline trend started to reverse in the late 1970's, when total sheep and lamb population began to rebuild. After peaking in 1985, the trend reversed again falling to the current level.

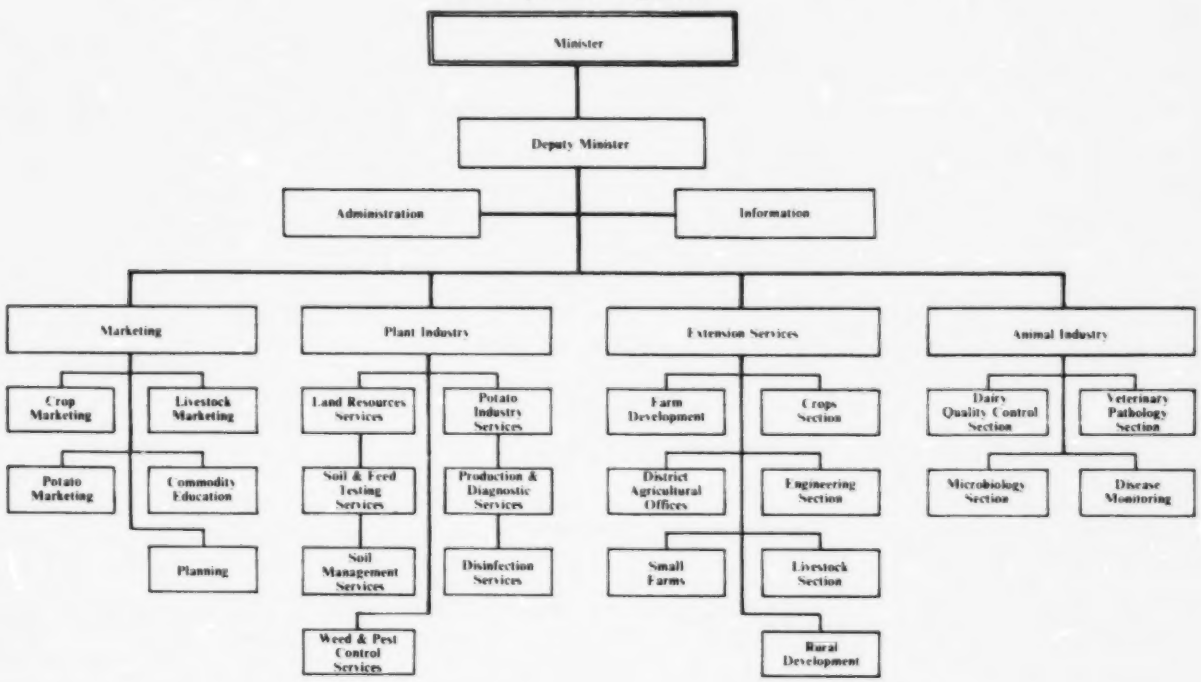
Dairy

Dairy production remains relatively stable during the most recent milk marketing year, 1986-87. Production was down under 1 per cent in industrial production, while fluid consumption was up almost 1.5 per cent. Producers exceeded their marketing sharing quota by 0.86 per cent.

Farm Net Income

Farm Cash Receipts for 1987 are forecast to reach $210 million, up 12 per cent from the 1986 receipts. Expenses, in terms of dollar value, will remain unchanged from 1986 at $146 million. Values in inventory at year-end vary from year to year depending on the stocks on hand at year-end. A downward adjustment by $9 million rounds out the major adjustments to settle farm net income for 1987 at an estimated $57.5 million, 43 per cent higher than the previous year.

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture



P.E.I.
Agriculture

Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture
Charlottetown, 1987

To the Honourable Lloyd G. MacPhail
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island

Sir:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture, comprised of financial statements for the period April 1, 1986 to March 31, 1987, and activities for the calendar year, 1987.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Tim Carroll.

Hon. Tim Carroll
Minister of Agriculture

To The Honourable Tim Carroll
Minister of Agriculture

Sir:

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Department of Agriculture for the 1987 calendar year, and the financial report for the fiscal year 1986-87.

Your staff initiated an overview of the major issues facing agriculture today and those expected to influence agricultural development into the 1990's. From this overview,in consultation with Policy Board and the farm community, your staff determined that the Department of Agriculture would focus on objectives relating to sustainability,(maintaining farm numbers, conserving the soil, and reducing off-farm inputs),developments in bio-technology, farm financing alternatives, marketing and program planning.

With the acceptance of the strategic overview, the structure of the department was changed to better reflect the objectives and to allow staff to initiate programs in line with the newly stated direction. The Department of Agriculture is now structured with two main branches,"Production Services" and "Marketing and Extension," and two support branches, "Planning and Operations" and "Appropriate Technology and International Programs."

During the year, your staff carried out a wide range of programs and consulted extensively with farm groups on matters relating to policy development and program direction.

On the national scene, your staff supported the National Agricultural Strategy, which was endorsed by the 11 Canadian Ministers of Agriculture. It was designed to give direction to a number of major initiatives ranging from a review of crop insurance to tri-partite stabilization to income security programs.

Nationally, 1987 was characterized by depressed grain prices brought about by a battle between the treasuries of the United States and the European Economic Community. Provincially, most commodity prices remained steady and higher than in 1986.

The National Farm Products Marketing Council conducted hearings into a national agency for potatoes. A brief in support of supply management for potatoes was presented at the Charlottetown hearings and a rebuttal presentation was delivered at the Ottawa wrap-up session.

The report of the Driscoll Royal Commission on the Potato Industry was released in December, with government acting on the major recommendations requiring legislative changes.

I would particularly like to thank Agriculture Canada for their continued co-operation in support of agricultural development and research. As well, I extend a sincere thank you to the farm families, farm organizations, and your staff for their co-operation in working toward the betterment of the farm sector.

You will find the details of our programs and activities for the year in the following report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Dewar

Dale Dewar
Deputy Minister

P.E.I.
Agriculture

1987 Annual Report

Index

Ministry of Agriculture Acts 1
Agriculture in 1987 2
P.E.I. Department of Agriculture Organization Chart 3
Minister's Letter 4
Deputy Minister's Letter 5

Branches:

Administration 7
Animal Industry Services 9
Dairy Quality Control 10
Extension Services 12
Crops 27
District Agricultural Offices 13
Engineering 31
Farm Development 33
Livestock 34
Rural Development 39
4-H Program 42
Small Farms 48
Information Services 50
Marketing 52
Crops 53
Livestock 54
Planning 57
Commodity Education and Promotion 58
Plant Industry Services 62
Potato Extension Program 64
Land Resource Services 68
Disease & Pest Control Services 69
Planning and Operations 72
Women's Institute 73
Financial Statement 75

Administration Section

This section processes all the financial, personnel and administrative transactions of the Department, and prepares the annual budget for submission to Treasury Board. In addition, the Section carries out a monitoring function to ensure that expenditures are made in accordance with the budget.

The Administration Section consists of two switchboard operators, one at 11 Kent Street and one at the Research Station, a mailman, two clerks, a Technical Services Coordinator and the Director.

The total authorized established positions for the Department is 158 part-time and full-time positions. The total strength of the Department at year end was 23 part-time and 135 full-time for a total of 158. The Department employed 28 summer students during the past year. We also employed 87 other people as relief and temporary employees for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Technical Services and Support

This section is responsible for microcomputer development, procedures, training, daily operation, and maintenance within the department.

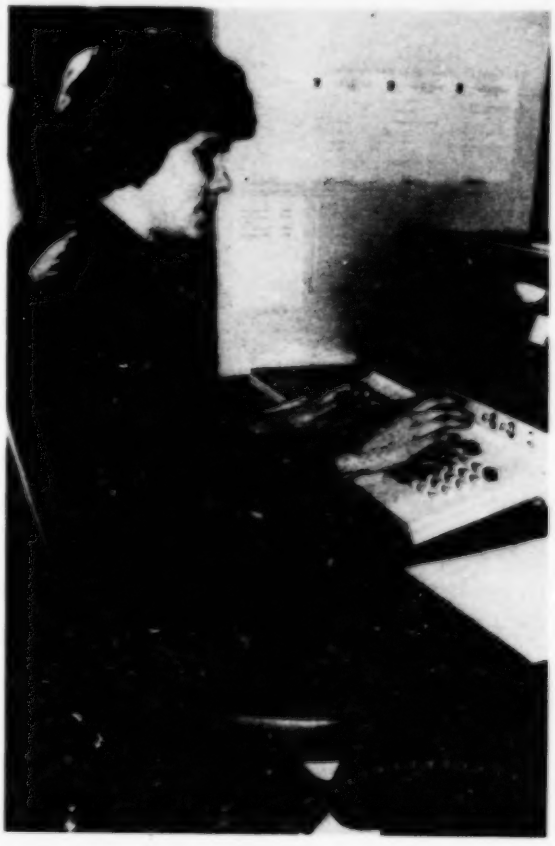
Computers in our department are constantly being upgraded to meet computer needs. At present, each district office, with the exception of Charlottetown, has an IBM-PC with 640K RAM and a printer. Charlottetown office, upon receipt of a new 20 MB Epson Equity IIC and NEC 760 printer passed their Olivetti portable and Okidata printer to the Resource Centre where they can be signed out for use by any departmental staff. The two 10 MB computers in the Livestock Section were replaced with a 20 MB Epson Equity IIC and a 25 MB Olivetti with a tape backup. Marketing (Women's Institute) and the Dairy Lab each received one of the former 10 MB computers.

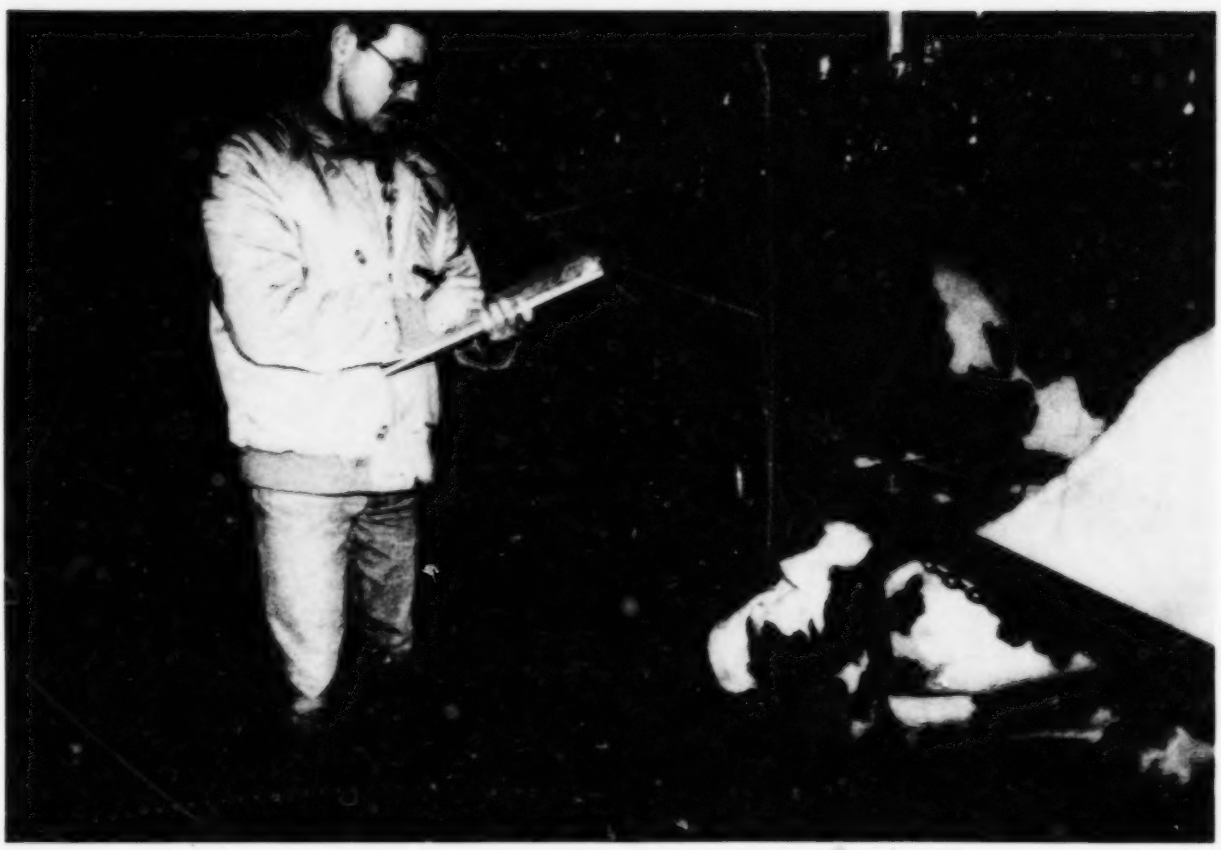
Additional equipment purchases during the year included one 20 MB Epson Equity IIC each for Planning and Operations, Marketing, and Information; two letter quality printers for Women's Institute and Planning and Operations; a NEC 760 dot matrix printer for Information; and an Equity III+ and Hewlett-Packard DraftPro plotter were purchased for Engineering. Some equipment has been leased for the ALFI program.

WordStar 2000 Plus, dBASE III PLUS, and LOTUS continue to be the primary software used by the department. Some speciality software has recently been purchased for the Engineers and the Dairy Lab.

Departmentally developed and regularly used programs now exceed 300. The Technical Services Co-ordinator is kept busy with program development, problem solving, skill upgrading, training sessions, demonstrations, computer maintenance and repairs, and attending project and committee meetings.

Because the number of computer users has increased tremendously and staff have found numerous uses for microcomputers, present equipment in the Charlottetown locations can no longer keep up with increased demands.





Animal Industry Services Branch

The Animal Industry Services Branch is responsible for the health related productivity of P.E.I. livestock. The Branch provides diagnostic, advisory and technical services to livestock producers.

The Livestock Health Programs and Provincial Meat Inspection Services are administered by the Animal Industry Services Branch. In addition the branch provides quality control and compositional analyses to the dairy sector from the relocated Dairy Laboratory on Walker Drive in Parkdale, P.E.I.

A grant was made available to the P.E.I. Humane Society to provide for the administration of the Dog Act. As well, the Artificial Breeders Association of Prince Edward Island received a grant to employ the necessary artificial breeding technicians to provide continuous artificial breeding services to cattlemen of Prince Edward Island. This is done to provide breeders and commercial dairymen with a breeding system which provides high quality genetic material and to offer that service at a reasonable cost with equal access to all producers; regardless of the location or size of their livestock operation. The organization employs 10 full time technicians, 2 part time technicians, a supervisor and a secretary/bookkeeper. The P.E.I.A.B.A. services more than 17,000 cows each year throughout the province in seven breeding areas. There are approximately 2500 additional first services on P.E.I. as a result of inseminations performed by 30 owner breeders.

The existing programs and services of the Animal Industry Services Branch support the Department of Agriculture's major objectives relating to sustainability and biotechnology.

The new Intensive Health Management Program which was announced during the year was designed as an educational program for producers and encourages producers to control and manage animal health and production at a high level of efficiency. Optional animal health will result in improved production and increased efficiency for participating livestock operations, all of which will reduce the cost of production of animal products.

Expanded Diagnostic Services

All diagnostic services for livestock, companion animals, fish and wildlife previously conducted by the staff of the Animal Industry Services Branch were provided by the staff of the Atlantic Veterinary College during 1987. The expanded services which were provided to all residents free of charge, became available as a result of that relocation to the University of Prince Edward Island with its complete range of well equipped diagnostic laboratories.

Laboratory tests have become essential to an accurate diagnosis for many of the diseases that are important to livestock producers. AVC now provides services from the hematology, clinical chemistry, histopathology, electron microscopy, post mortem, bacteriology and parasitology laboratories.

The college provides two electron microscopes with both transmission and scanning capabilities to support diagnostic services in pathology and virology. A number of well qualified medical technologists have been employed in the laboratories to ensure that the diagnostic procedures are carried out properly with careful attention to quality control. In the latter part of 1987, the A.V.C. diagnostic services were further expanded to provide Island residents with assistance in the broad area of toxicology. A heightened awareness of the environment, food safety and quality led to a requirement for an expanded diagnostic service in the area of toxicology.

Consumers Benefit from Meat Inspection Services

Prince Edward Island has been, and continues to be a leader in Atlantic Canada in the area of Meat Inspection Services to local abattoirs, which do not qualify for the Federal Meat Inspection Program. Since 1961, all red meat, slaughtered on Prince Edward Island, has been inspected to ensure high safety and quality standards.

Approximately 7,852 cattle, 3,455 hogs and 969 sheep or lamb carcasses were stamped and identified with the P.E.I. approved legend during 1987. This certification ensures the consumer that the product was slaughtered and processed in a sanitary fashion and was free of any condition, which would make it unwholesome for human consumption. A total of 18 slaughter houses across the province are inspected on demand with inspection services provided by private veterinarians and officials from the Department of Health and Social Services Division of Community Hygiene. The private veterinarians provide the individual ante mortem inspections as indicated and post mortem examinations on all carcasses. The inspectors from the Department of Health and Social Services routinely monitor the sanitation and procedures employed in each licensed slaughter house in an effort to ensure a wholesome and safe product for consumers on Prince Edward Island.

The 18 slaughterhouses located in the rural areas of Prince Edward Island provide additional employment opportunities for farm families and at the same time, supply livestock producers with several options in the marketing of their livestock in the red meat sector.

Minimal Disease Program in Island Swine Herds

In 1987, maximizing the levels of health in Prince Edward Island swine herds continued to be a major objective of the Animal Industry Services Branch. Producer education, the Minimal Disease Swine Program, slaughter checks at Garden Province Meats and the Health Management Programs were important segments of the overall preventive health concept necessary for cost-effective production of a high quality pork product.

The Minimal Disease Program at present has certified seven swine-breeding operations with the Multiplier Breeder Classification. Two other swine breeders are undergoing the certification process to qualify as Multiplier Breeders in 1988. These breeders purchase their breeding stock from the Central Unit at Grandview, P.E.I., and in turn, potentiate the genetics while maintaining the high level of health. Due to a strong demand for the genetics and health quality of this breeding stock, existing Multiplier Breeders have undergone expansion in an effort to satisfy the Island demand.

Certification for the Multiplier Breeders and the Central Unit is an ongoing process. Monthly farm visitations by the Department's swine veterinarian verify that the health, management and security requirements are maintained. Also, monthly slaughter checks provide further health data necessary for certification.

The service of slaughter checks is provided by the departmental swine fieldman upon request of the swine producers and their veterinarians. Levels of pneumonia, rhinitis and parasitism can be determined with regular checks at the abattoir. With new health concerns, the slaughter check health data is an integral part of their health management program.

Swine producer meetings, published newsletters, farm consultations and phone inquiries allow the Animal Industry Branch to communicate new ideas and assist in the correction of existing health and management problems. Education allows each producer to establish personal goals of health and productivity thereby supporting the provincial swine industry.

Dairy Quality Control

During 1987, the five new programs introduced during 1986 continued - Universal Milk Sampling, Iodine Analysis, Somatic Cell Count and, Keeping Quality Analysis. With respect to the Antibiotic Analysis program, new equipment was purchased which will permit a more detailed antibiotic analysis of dairy and meat products.

The Dairy Farm Inspection service continued in 1987 with all milk producers in the province receiving an initial inspection of their premises and follow-up visits as required. In August, 1986, an additional inspector was hired and stationed in Prince County to service the dairy producers in this part of the province. The farm inspection reflects the condition of the facilities as well as the sanitary condition of all areas related to quality milk production. These conditions are reflected by numerical scores with the result being a weighted average score for the individual farm. Although this method of inspection may appear to be quite critical of a milk production facility, it is supported by regulation and complements the enforcement of the minimum provisions of the Regulations. All milk producers in the province, through provisions of the Milk Act, may be inspected as often as deemed necessary by the Department.

Milk Production and Utilization: Total milk shipments for the calendar year 1987 were approximately 95.0 million litres,a decrease of 5.0 per cent over a similar period last year. Production of 95.0 million litres is the pure figure of producer shipments to plants. Of this 95.0 million litres, 14.0 million litres is considered as Fluid sales (Class I producer's production sold as Fluid milk in the Province). This does not include Fluid milk surplus to the Class I market sold as Industrial milk; this figure is included in the total Industrial milk production. A total of 74.0 million litres is considered as Industrial milk shipments, and 7.0 million litres is considered as cream shipments (in milk equivalents).

In P.E.I. there are 749 milk producers, a decrease of 4.4 per cent from 1986; of the 749 producers 184 are Class I, 373 are Industrial producers and 192 are cream producers.

Creamery butter production (Jan. - Aug, 1987) was 1.14 million kilograms. Weight certificates were issued for 295,l00 kg. of butter and 1.5 million kg. of skim milk powder during 1987. Total litres of ice cream mix manufactured (Jan. - Aug, 1987) amounted to 1.9 million litres, whey butter production (Jan. - Aug, 1987) amounted to 66.9 thousand kg. Total cheddar cheese production is manufactured at Amalgamated Dairies Ltd. in Summerside.

As of August 31, 1987 all plant production statistics were sent directly to Statistics Canada, thus we do not have available any production figures after this date.

During 1986, 13 manufacturing plant licenses were issued to five creameries, two industrial plants and six fluid plants that also process manufactured milk products. There is one Fluid milk plant which processed only Class I milk.

Provincial Dairy Section staff, in cooperation with Agriculture Canada Dairy Section officials conducted in-depth plant inspections on all milk and cream processing plants in P.E.I. As well, follow-up inspections were conducted on three plants which failed to meet a 77.4 per cent score on the initial inspection.

During 1986, three persons from P.E.I. engaged in milk pickup from farm bulk tanks successfully completed a Bulk Tank Grader's Course and were subsequently issued a license permitting them to pick up and transport bulk milk in the province.

A Plate Loop Count is performed on all Industrial and Class I producers on a bi-monthly basis in accordance with

the Milk Act Regulations. Those producers who exceed the Regulations on the initial analysis are rechecked before the end of the pay period.

During 1987, 15,400 producer samples were analyzed for bacterial numbers. Approximately 1.44 per cent of Industrial and .60 per cent of Class I producers exceeded the regulated maximum allowable bacterial count of 300,000/ml and 100,000/ml respectively. Approximately 62.8 per cent of Industrial producers' samples had bacteria counts less than 30,000/ml; seven per cent less than the previous year, while 85 per cent of Class I producers' samples were less than 30,000/ml which is five per cent more than 1986.

During 1986, the Dairy Lab analyzed 3814 producer samples and 9736 bulk tank truck samples for the presence of antibiotic residues; 1.3 per cent of producer samples were confirmed to contain antibiotic residues in excess of 0.01 IU, and .17 per cent of loads were also confirmed to contain antibiotic residues in excess of 0.01 I.U. Forty-nine bulk tanks of raw milk were placed under detention for suspected antibiotic contamination and three tanks were ordered not to be sold or offered for sale due to the confirmed presence of antibiotic residues. Seven hundred samples of processed milk were also analyzed for presence of antibiotic contamination. The I.D.F. method is used to determine the presence of antibiotic residues; detectability of 0.025 IU is possible.

Nine thousand seven hundred thirty-six bulk truck loads of milk were also analyzed for the presence of added water. This analysis, based on the freezing point determination of raw milk, will indicate the presence and amount of added water in milk. When load samples show a positive presence of added water, all producers making up the load are tested to determine the offender(s).

Two hundred thirty-six producer samples and 688 processed milk samples were analyzed for Iodine content. A level of less than 500 ug/l is considered acceptable. Only one producer sample exceeded this level, and none of the processed milk samples showed a level in excess of 500 ug/l.

Dairy Section inspection staff visit all producers who exceed the regulated bacterial limits, and those who have a positive antibiotic or adulteration test results as soon as these results are known. Producers receive confirmation of the analysis by mail.

The Dairy Laboratory analyzes all Industrial and Class I producer's butterfat samples for payment basis. This analysis is conducted on a fresh sample each week. During 1987 the Dairy Lab analyzed 26,526 samples for payment, 46,157 samples were analyzed for butterfat and protein content, 54,154 samples were analyzed for Somatic Cell Content, 63 butter samples were obtained for Yeast and Mold analysis, 1080 cream samples were check tested for accuracy and 2238 cans of cream were graded at P.E.I. creameries.

On November 1, 1987 the Dairy Division relocated to 15 Walker Drive, Parkdale.

Extension Services Branch

The Extension Services Branch contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island by:

1. *providing technical information and skills training in agricultural production and farm management;*
2. *providing management programs and services that farm families use to assist them in making the best use of the available resources to improve their net income and the productivity and efficiency of their farms.*
3. *providing assistance to farm and youth organizations that will enable them to increase the effectiveness of their programs and the leadership skills of their members; and*
4. *implementing agricultural assistance programs and policies to encourage the development and use of quality livestock, cropping, and management programs.*

The Extension Services Branch consists of specialized extension resource groups, i.e. Crops, Engineering, Livestock, Rural Development, Small Farms,Farm Management, and District Agricultural Offices in West Prince, Summerside, Souris, Charlottetown and Montague.

Program Direction

Programs designed to aid farm families in making the management decisions affecting their farm operations continued to be the emphasis in 1987.

Training activities included sessions on financial management, computer applications on the farm, ration formulations, dairy management, and crop production methods; as well as many other topics.

Organizers of training activities draw on the skills and knowledge of department staff as well as other local, national and international resource people to present interesting and relevant programs for farm families.

Department staff are continually upgrading their skills in the preparation and presentation of information to the public. As part of this process, 24 staff members attended a 3-day workshop in Charlottetown entitled, "Twelve Ways To Enhance Your Presentations".

On-going livestock, crops and engineering programs provide farmers with information and incentives to improve the productivity of their farms.

The Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative (ALFI) Program was put in place in 1987, and many staff were involved with farmers in identifying ways that the program could assist producers in improving livestock feed productivity on their farms.

Staff at the district and provincial levels continued to work closely with farm and related organizations. Included are the Soil and Crop Improvement Association, the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, 4-H Clubs and Councils, breed and commodity associations, Marketing Boards, Junior Farmers', Women In Support of Agriculture, Women's Institutes, Community Schools, fairs and exhibitions, Cattlemen's Association, etc. Staff of the Crops, Livestock, Engineering and Rural Development Sections continue to be involved on a regional basis with Atlantic Provinces' committees to identify research needs and to co-ordinate, where possible, extension activities, programs and staff training opportunities. Many of the publications in farm management, crop and livestock production and engineering are issued on an Atlantic provinces basis, thus lowering the costs to individual provinces and improving the quality of information through close contacts with research officers in the region. Participation by staff in the work of National Committees such as the Canada Farm Building Plans Service is also an important part of on-going work.

Charlottetown District Office

The Charlottetown District Office provides extension services to approximately 950 individual farm families and many rural organizations. Six staff act as information sources and advisors on many aspects of farm management and production, home economics, 4-H, and government policy interpretation and implementation.

Three major program initiatives resulted in a significant increase in contacts with farm families in the Charlottetown district during the previous year. More than 500 grain producers were assisted in applying for the Special Canadian Grains program in early 1987. In May, the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiatives Program (ALFI) was implemented to assist in feed self-sufficiency. Two hundred and ten farm operations applied for approximately 525 projects under the ALFI program. Also, the Federal Soil and Water Management and Conservation program implemented a special program of Soil pH Adjustment which brought in 418 applicants with more than 2090 soil samples through the District Office.

Charlottetown District Office Statistics

District Short Courses, Information Sessions, Tours

Staff were involved in delivering various courses, workshop/information sessions to farm clientele in co-operation with other specialists and farm organizations. As well, staff attended many meetings/activities to keep abreast of developments and maintain contact with the farmers of the district.

Courses	Duration	Attendance
Swine Financial Management	4 days	18
Dairy Production	7 days (1 day/wk)	20
Farm Computer Applications	4 nights (1 night/wk)	24
Step by Step Money Management	(correspondence)	22

Workshop/Information Sessions	Duration	Attendance
Introduction to Computers	1 day	19
Meter Mill Calibration	1 day	15
Dairy Financial Management	two half-days	5
Milk Quality Seminar	1 day	34
Estate Planning & Farm Womens Conference		50
Estate Planning Workshop	1 day	27
Swine Ration Formulation W/S	1 day	7
Swine Productivity Info Session	1/2 day	4
Kitchen clinic on record keeping	1/2 day	3
Dairy Nutrition W/S	1 day	35+
Feed Mill Calibration	1 day	10
Island Foods First and Last	(2 sessions)	100
Country Kitchen Christmas	(3 sessions)	260

Tours	Duration	Attendance
Nova Scotia Dairy Tour	2 days	18
Provincial Plot Tour	1/2 day	60
Dairy Tour Summerside area		25
Dairy Tour Charlottetown area		20

Meetings/Activities Attended	Duration	Attendance
Crop Seminar	1 day	41
Vegetable Production Day	1 day	50
Charlottetown District SCIA Machinery Demo	1/2 day	50
Bale Wrapper Demonstration	1/2 day	20
WSA	4 evenings avg.	12
NFU District Meeting presented ALFI & pH Adjustment		28
Cattlemen's Association Annual Meeting		50
Crapaud Dairy Meeting		15
PEI Marketing Conference	2 days	100+
Holstein Annual Meeting	1 day	50+
Atlantic Committee on Extension, Education & Economics, in St. John's, Nfld. Presentation regarding PEI Activities		35+
Federation of Agriculture - Farmer Safety and Occupational Health		20
Eastern Holstein Club Sale		75+
Stress Workshop for Farmers		32
Potato Fertility Seminar		140+
Charlottetown District Dairy Producers Annual Meeting		15
Dairy Breeding Management Seminar		20
PEI Aryshire Breeders Annual Meeting		20
Ecological Agriculture Information Day		25
Manure Composting Demo	1/2 day	15

Other Activities

Agricultural Credit Conference
Judged Shorthorn Dairy Princess
Evaluated Home Economics Students on Interview Skills
Conducted Tour for 12 NS farmers of PEI farms
PEI Marketing Conference
Farm Machinery Show - Moncton
Farm Business for Farm Women Conference

Livestock

The Dairy production course assisted 20 individuals in obtaining practical production skills and information on the management and care of dairy cattle. Swine producers were encouraged to take advantage of the swine incentive program and the sow productivity records system offered by the Livestock Division. Both beef and swine producers benefited from better market prices and lower cost of feed inputs.

Dairy tours were conducted in-province and out-of-province to expose producers to other management practices.

Crops

The district experienced an extremely dry summer, but most crops had enough moisture early in the season to produce good yields. The exception was second cut hay and/or silage which produced very little, as did the pastures. A significant increase in grain yields produced a bumper crop but poor prices. The potato yields were generally good but varied with variety and date of planting.

District staff assisted Plant Industry Branch to monitor weather stations and aphid traps for the blight and aphid alert programs. Hay samples were taken weekly to support the crop quality report.

Charlottetown District Soil & Crop Improvement Association

The local association conducted several forage and cereal trials in 1987. Twelve producers were assisted by a summer student and one staff person in monitoring the trials. Six alfalfa variety trials were conducted as well as three pasture renovation projects, one timothy variety trial, a persistance trial for double-cut red clover, barley underseeded to ryegrass and a hull-less oat trial.

District staff assisted the district directors in the planning and implementation of two information meetings, a demonstration of forage equipment and a plot tour.

Farm and Home Management

Eighteen swine producers took advantage of an intense four-day financial management course offered by the district. Producers were assisted individually and in small kitchen clinics to improve their record-keeping and analysis skills. An introductory computer seminar and subsequent course was well-attended as hands-on experience was

obtained by farm managers. A correspondence course in money management provided at-home experience in making the budget work for you.

Producers were assisted in credit applications to LDC, PLA, FCC and private banks. A number of cash flows were done with producers where the financial situation warranted.

A number of presentations were made on estate planning matters and 12 farm families were assisted individually with their own farm transfer plans.

Liaison with Other Programs

Staff continue to assist farm families to be aware of all Federal and Provincial programs that affect them. These programs include: fuel tax rebates, feed freight assistance, commodity stabilization, quote exchange, livestock bonus programs, soil conservation and land drainage, productivity enhancement proposals, income tax and many others.

Three Agricultural Resource Workers (ARW's) in the district under the Small Farms Program work with extension staff in assisting farmers directly and referring them to other staff for information and advice.

Home Economics

The District Home Economist (DHE) responded to more than 1300 consumer requests and conducted a wide variety of workshops and information sessions, 48 in total, attended by a total of 2040 people.

Promotion of Island products played a large role in many of the presentations and workshops. Five sessions on Island Foods and Country Kitchen Christmas were very popular; reaching 360 people. Eighteen presentations were made on various topics from budgeting and time management to nutrition and dieting sensibly. As well, the DHE conducted a correspondence course in Money Management and presented budgeting concepts to the Swine Financial Management Course.

The DHE works closely with Women's Institute and conducts programs for them and assists with 4-H Achievement days and judging at exhibitions.

Besides sitting on various committees and developing provincial programs, the DHE does extensive media work, both for publication and radio. Articles are prepared for the newspaper, CornerPost, and other newsletters. Over 40 individual radio programs were organized and taped by our Home Economist this past year reaching many Islanders with information of foods and nutrition, home management and rural organization news.

4-H Leadership Development

The 4-H program in the Charlottetown District Office during 1987 involved 390 members organized in 13 clubs. Leadership was provided by 107 men and women. Sixteen Achievement Days were held with a total of 472 projects being completed.

All clubs held a Communication Rally during which each member presented a speech or a demonstration. Four area rallies and two district rallies were held. All District Office staff shared in judging at these events. Three members from the District - Barbara Jean Campbell, Jennifer Craig, and Maria Gallant - went on to take part in the Atlantic Communications Competition.

Throughout the year 4-H members participated in bowling and the annual Ice Sports Competition. Club reporters contributed to "Members Memo" and this was circulated to all member families. Cavendish 4-H Club was the winner of the club of the year trophy, while Cherrycliffe won the trophy for the most improved club.

Club members participated in many fairs and exhibitions from the Easter Beef Show to the Royal Winter Fair. The Rural Youth Fair was expanded with the help of several district 4-H leaders and involved more members in the program than in previous years.

4-H members and leaders from the district attended an Executive Training Workshop; beef, dairy and rabbit clinics; provincial camp; conferences in P.E.I.; the Atlantic provinces and national and international conferences.

Montague District Office

Livestock & Crop Production and Marketing

The District staff try to work closely with appropriate specialists to carry out specific programs and projects, and to respond to producer requests for information. District staff also work with district producer groups to assist them in carrying out their projects or information sessions.

The summer student worked almost exclusively on crops, such as Soil & Crop projects, forage quality surveys, and reporting on aphid traps and blight stations.

Assistance has been given to the P.E.I. Bean Growers Cooperative, as they become established.

Assistance has been given to the Montague-Hillsborough A.I. Club on their Productivity Enhancement Project "Improved Conception Rates in Dairy Cattle".

During the year, staff tried to become updated in the area of sustainable agriculture. Several staff training sessions on topics such as composting, organic production techniques and alternative cropping methods were attended. This is an attempt to become more knowledgeable, and more able to give farmers the answers they are seeking. District farm families are expressing increased interest in this new agricultural frontier. One staff member is part of the Department's sustainable agriculture core group.

Farm & Home Financial Management

Financial Management is a priority with the District Office. The majority of activity was done on a one-to-one basis, working with individual farm families, assisting with cash flow budgeting, credit counselling, farm transfers, estate planning, general farm planning, tax management, payroll preparation, personal money management and many other items. Assistance was given to a greater number of farmers than in the past, to prepare farm plans for Land Development Corporation, Provincial Lending Authority, Farm Credit Corporation, and other agencies.

Several information sessions on financial management topics were presented to groups.

The microcomputer is an invaluable tool to assist staff in their work. Better data for decision-making is provided to farm families in the district.

The estate planning workshop "Transferring the Family Farm" was very well-received by farm families.

Through the Department of Industry, staff completed entrepreneurial assessments for three applicants for immigration to farms in the District - one potato and two hog operations.

One staff member attended the Farm Business Management Conference in Nova Scotia in February.

A.L.F.I.

Starting in May, when the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program was announced, District Staff became quite busy in delivering the program. By October, the rush seemed to be over, with a more manageable workload developing. So far, there have been 87 applicants from this District. One staff member chairs the Advisory Committee for the Technology Evaluation, Adoption and Dissemination Program of A.L.F.I. This added responsibility has placed additional A.L.F.I. strain on the Montague Office.

Liaison With Other Programs

The District Office tries to offer "one-stop information" for district farmers. Staff attempt to keep up-to-date on all provincial and federal government and farm organization programs relating to farmers, so they can respond to inquiries, assist with applications,suggest programs to pursue,and make referrals with confidence.

The biggest thrust in this topic area in 1987 was the Special Canadian Grains Program, when approximately 200 farmers applied through the Montague Office.

The new Soil pH Adjustment Program involved the District Office staff as point of contact at various stages of the application procedure. Some 127 farmers applied through this office, submitting more than 600 samples, during June-September.

Other programs dealt with include fuel tax rebates, feed freight assistance, various federal stabilization programs, C.R.T.P., Economic & Regional Development Agreement Programs, inspection services, quota transactions, various capital assistance programs, and many others.

Farm Machinery

Two 30-hour evening Welding courses were offered at Montague High School, one in January, and the other in November, with 14 farmers and eight farmers respectively enrolled. These courses were organized by this Office, and in cooperation with the Unit 1V School Board - the first one sponsored by Holland College, the second by N.S.A.C., Truro. The second course was offered to both farmers and fishermen. It is the third such course to be offered at Montague High School.

The two-week Tractor Maintenance Course held at Kinross was well-received by farmers.

Working With Groups

The District Office offers support to the various local farm and rural groups to give assistance whenever required to carry out their programs and projects.

The 4-H Clubs and Council, and the District Soil & Crop Improvement Association form an integral part of our work, requiring a great deal of staff time.

Assistance as requested was also given to the W.I. Branches and Area Conventions, District Dairy Producers Association, A.I. Club, Federation of Agriculture, W.S.A., and various Community Schools.

For the second year in a row, the Montague area hosted the Sri Lankan- Canada World Youth Exchange project, May - October. Staff assisted with publicity, background information, and training of participants.

Staff were involved in the planning and organizing of two seminars for rural women, one in March, one in November, funded by the P.E.I. Women's Network.

As always, staff were heavily involved with Dundas Exhibition - organizing, judging, clerking, running 4-H day, setting up and looking after the 4-H building, and various other duties.

Staff also assist with the Provincial Exhibition and the Rural Youth Fair.

School Milk Program

The Montague District Home Economist is one of the two Co- ordinators for the School Milk Program. and serves as Secretary to the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

Food and Nutrition

The objective of the food and nutrition program in the District continues to be the promotion of Island products, with emphasis on sound nutrition principles. The most effective means of reaching the public appears to be the large food demonstrations that have become a tradition. This year there were three - " Island Foods, First and Last"; "Preserving the Harvest"; and "Country Kitchen Christmas". Several sessions on this topic were given to many different groups during the year.

The Montague District Home Economist serves as Nutrition Resource Person within the Department. In this capacity she serves on the Atlantic Committee on Food; the Atlantic Advisory Committee on Nutrition; and P.E.I.'s Interdepartmental Nutrition Committee. In 1987, she attended the Canadian Cancer Society's Conference on "Diet and Cancer" in Montreal, and consequently did a presentation for Q.E.H. staff on the topic, and is working with a local committee to organize a public information session on the same topic.

The D.H.E. judged foods at three exhibitions.

I.A.E.A.

Heather Tweedy is the Deparment's contact for the International Agricultural Exchange Association. As such, she handles all inquiries, interviews applicants, and assists applicants to complete travel arrangements.

In April 1987, Nancy Campbell, Montague, returned from her "Around the World" program (Norway and Australia). Kim Munroe, Montague, left in October for an eight-month placement in New Zealand.

4-H

The Montague District had an active and successful 4-H year with the seven clubs in the District serving 107 members and 47 leaders. The members completed 109 projects.

To help the new executives of our seven clubs get started, the District offered an Executive Workshop held at the Services Centre.

Activities for all the members this year began with the Annual Awards Day. The awards presented that day were Club-of- the Year honors going to Uigg-Kinross Club, and the Most Improved Club of the Year Award being won by the Summerville 4-H Club.

The Council participated in the Montague Winter Carnival by having an information both at the High School. Many local residents asked questions, took brochures and watched the slide show. The Council had often discussed the promotion of 4-H in the area and it was felt this was an opportunity to expose the public to our program.

The sports activity for the members this year was the Ice Sports held on March 10 at the Belfast Rink.

The Communications Competition in the District continues to be strong in that our District has gone on to win some categories at the provincial level for the past five years.

Junior Public Speaking	Jody Walsh Summerville 4-H Club
Intermediate Public Speaking	Angela Matheson Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
Senior Public Speaking	Cindy Leard Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Single Demonstration	James Landrigan Sturgeon Bay 4-H Club
Double Demonstration	Justin & Jeffrey MacLeod Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club

The summer outing for 4-H families this year was a Fun Day at Rainbow Valley.

Many of our members and one leader had the opportunity to participate in Award Trips across Canada:

National Leaders Conference	Susan MacKinnon Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Citizenship	April Thompson Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
Danforth	B.J. McCabe Belfast Conquerors 4-H Club
National Members	Rhonda McCabe Belfast Conquerors 4-H Club
Atlantic Conference	Jamie Gill Summerville 4-H Club
	Janet Doyle Summerville 4-H Club
	Angela Matheson Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
	Deanne McGuigan Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
	Justin & Jeffrey MacLeod Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Petro Canada Scholarship	Leesa MacLeod Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club
C.N.E. Scholarship	Bonnie Jean McCabe Belfast Conquerors 4-H Club

District Soil & Crop Improvement Association

An information day on "Cropping Techniques for Profit" was held in January, with 42 farmers participating. Topics focussed primarily on cereal and soybean production and marketing.

A highly-successful Round Bale Silage Demonstration Day, with some 100 people in attendance, was held at a local farm. Five balers, two wrappers, and various plastics were demonstrated.

The District Tour included farm visits to see the provincial cereal and soybean trials, a modern irrigation system, soil erosion control structures, soybeans grown in

wide rows, and much more. This was all rounded out with a barbecue and equipment display at noon.

A Twilight Meeting on "Cropping Alternatives" was held at a local farm in August.

Field projects conducted by our Soil & Crop this year include:

1. Demonstration of Forage Brassicas (mangels, fodder beets, stubble turnips)
2. Alfalfa Variety Demonstration (Oneida and Turbo) (seeded in May, 1987)
3. Comparison of Pasture Renovation Methods (seeded in May, 1987)
4. Permanent Pasture for Cattle (seeded May, 1987)
5. Comparing Methods of Fertilizing Barley
6. Monitoring yields on Permanent Pasture Mixes for Sheep (seeded May, 1986)
7. Composting

Provincial Field Projects were also carried out on District farms.

Farmers from this District always participate in the various Provincial Competitions. For 1987, we had:

2 entries in the Silage Competition
14 entries in the Grain Competition
4 entries in the Soybean Competition
5 entries in the First-Cut Hay Competition
3 entries in the Second-Cut Hay Competition

One highlight of the year was the purchase by the Association of a new 10-foot Brillion seeder, and the sale, by tender, of the old 8-foot seeder. The new seeder was in great demand, with a record number of acres and users. Fifty-eight Montague and Souris District farmers, (compared to 45 last year), seeded 675 acres, up 24 per cent from last year. In the Montague District about 37 per cent was seeded in alfalfa; 33 per cent in ryegrass; 17 per cent in pasture mixes; eight per cent in triple mix; and five per cent in kale.

The Department's summer student coordinated the scheduling of the seeder, and moved it from farm to farm.

Membership remains high with 142 members at last count, compared to 150 in 1986. We feel this makes a statement for our Association, and indicates that farm families in this District are interested in the work of the Association.

Direct Short Courses, Information Sessions, Tours

(Organized by this office: does not include sessions or tours put on by District Soil & Crop, 4-H, or other groups)

Courses

Topic	Duration	Attending
Vernon River Community School General Agriculture	6 sessions	9
Welding Course (January-March)	30 hours	14 (all farmers)
WeldingCourse (November 26/87-January/'88)	30 hours	14 (8 farmers, 6 Fisherman)
Tractor Maintenance Course	10 days	9
Combine Adjustment for Soybean Harvesting	on request, on-farm	3
Information Sessions		
Somatic Cell Count Workshop	1/2 day	10
Calcium Calculator	4 presentations	41
Rhyme & Reason	3 presentations	27
Abby Plan	2 presentations	17
Transferring the Family Farm	1 day	37
Personal Money Management	1 presentation	19
Dairy Nutrition Day	1 day	16
(Human) Nutrition for the '80's	2 sessions	43
3 Beef Cow-Calf Meetings (2 joint with Souris)	1 day each	38
Swine Productivity Program	1 presentation	25
"Women Influencing Change"	1/2 day	63
Soybean Production & Marketing	1 day	8
Island Foods, First & Last	1 afternoon	37
	1 evening	17
(Women's Roles) From a Different Viewpoint"	Concurrent session	16
"Nutrition" (Grade 6 Class)	1 class	25
Diet & Cancer (Q.E.H Staff)	1 presentation	45
Preserving the Harvest	1 afternoon	10
	1 evening	10
Preserving (Women's Christian Club)	1 presentation	40
Nutrition (Canada World Youth)	1 presentation	14
Country Kitchen Christmas	1 afternoon	59
	1 evening	51
Breeding Management Workshop	2 days	18
2 Ration Formulation & Feed Mill Calibration Workshops (Winter & Fall)	1 day, each	9
Sow Productivity Workshop	1/2 day	6

Souris District Office

Responding to requests for information is a major extension activity of Souris District staff. In addition, various courses and workshops are held to promote new technology and techniques as well as the use of Island products.

Livestock

There was additional participation by District beef cow-calf producers in the Beef Cow-Calf Development Program. Based on this interest, the District Office offered information meetings on bull selection and cross-breeding, pasture improvement and herd health. These topic areas

offer opportunities to increase calf weight and quality for better returns at very little additional cost. These meetings were held in several different communities in the District to attract farmers who usually do not get out to meetings. Participation by farmers was excellent.

For dairy farmers, a Somatic Cell Information Meeting was held. Participation was low but interest by those attending was high. There are a number of younger farmers taking over dairy operations from their parents and these farmers have expressed high interest in breeding, nutrition and herd health. There is continued participation in the milking procedure and equipment check services offered by the Department.

Because of low swine farm numbers in this District, extension activities were limited in 1987. These farmers were contacted to participate in Meter Mill Calibration and Sow Productivity Program Workshops offered in the Montague District.

Of concern to livestock farmers was the retirement of the local vet in the spring of 1987. The District Office sponsored a public meeting to air concerns as well as short-term and long- term solutions. As of the end of the year, the Montague Veterinary Clinic had taken over the service area and was in the process of building a clinic in Souris.

Cereals & Forages

One of the major activities in the cereal area was the witnessing of applicant signatures under the Special Canadian Grains Program. In addition to the benefits provided to farmers, this Program also brought Staff into contact with many farmers who are usually not in touch with the District Office. Opportunities arose for future farmer contact.

Also in the cereal area, there was considerable interest in cereal variety performance and extra fertility. Several farmers tried milling wheat for the first time and there were also over 200 acres of hulless oats grown for the first time. A fair number of grain samples were brought in to the Office for moisture testing.

In forages, there is keen interest in putting up silage as a way to reduce forage losses and increase forage and feeding quality. An increasing number of farmers are trying bagged and wrapped round bale silage. Many of these farmers are participating under the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program. Also under this program, many farmers are putting up new hay barns to allow for increased forage acreage and quality.

Potatoes

To provide extension events needed by local growers, the District Staff arranged a program planning meeting with a number of farmers.

Several events were held to pass on both new and "old" extension information. An on-farm potato fertility meeting as well as an on-farm sprayer calibration workshop were held. These sessions were held in communities to attract farmers who do not usually attend events held any major distance from their farms. Attendance was excellent.

As a result of a number of potato farmers' interest in expanding grading facilities, a meeting was arranged with representatives of the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion to review assistance programs available.

In co-operation with the Marketing Branch, the District Staff helped co-ordinate a Potato Grading Seminar for local potato growers and their hired help. This was the first year for such a session. Interest by those attending was high.

Farm Management

The majority of work was on an individual basis and involved cash flows and credit agency applications.

A Farm Income Tax Update was held with an accountant available to discuss tax changes and interpretation of various income tax items as they related to farmers.

District Staff participated in a Farm Income Tax Course offered for Charlottetown farmers.

Soil & Crop Association

The District Soil & Crop Improvement Association continues to be very active. In 1987, there were 58 members. The Association sponsored a number of events which included:

Crop Seminar '87	13
Last Minute Variety Tips	16
Milling Wheat	6
Soil At Risk	3
Soil Ridging Demonstration	4
Round Bale Silage Demonstration	17
District Project Tour	30
BBQ	80
Annual Meeting	65

The Association completed a Productivity Enhancement Program Project on the use of soil ridging to control erosion on harvested potato fields.

An application was submitted to the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program and approval received for the purchase of a Brillion Seeder and trailer. For the past number of years, a seeder has been shared with Montague and in 1987, eight Souris farmers used the seeder to put in eight acres Annual Ryegrass, seven acres Triple Mix, 75 acres Alfalfa, 32 acres of Pasture Mix and 6 acres of Kale.

The District Association, along with the Provincial Association in some cases, worked with a number of local farmers on various crop demonstration projects. These were as follows:

1. Pasture Renovation with Zip Seeder
2. Phocelia As a Plowdown
3. Sunflower Varieties
4. Barley Varieties
5. Tansy Ragwort Control
6. Pasture Variety Evaluation
7. Cereal Variety Demonstration Site
8. Winter Wheat Varieties
9. Two Cut Vs Three Cut Alfalfa

Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative

The Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program (A.L.F.I.) was initiated in 1987. Thirty-eight farmers applied. The estimated cost of all projects being applied for under the various sub-programs of ALFI totalled $643,768.

Soil pH Adjustment Program

This was another program initiated in 1987 which received a good response from District farmers. Forty-two farmers applied with numerous fields being tested for eligibility under the program.

Home Economics

Foods Demonstrations were carried out to promote Island Agricultural food products.

			Attendance
Island Foods First & Last	Souris	1 session	22
	Montague	2 sessions	56
Country Kitchen Xmas	Souris	1 session	65
	Montague	2 sessions	103

To assist consumers in the use of microwave ovens, one session was completed at Community School for 10 persons and two sessions were co-ordinated for a local community centre for 42 persons.

Sessions on basic nutrition and foods information were requested by community groups with 4 sessions being offered to 52 persons.

Group sessions on specific topics were available and two sessions of "Calcium Calculator" and two sessions of "Rhyme and Reason .. Insights Into Your Grocery Cart" were given for a combined total of 38 persons.

One session was conducted on running effective meetings with 12 in attendance.

Home Economics topics including foods, nutrition and home management were also dealt with on a one to one basis on request and through available media - newspaper, CornerPost, and radio programs.

4-H

4-H continues to maintain the interest of young people in the District with 137 members enrolled in the program through nine 4-H clubs.

There continues to be a slight increase in the number of members taking part in the Beef and Dairy Projects. Other agricultural projects taken by members included Gardening, Potatoes, Swine and Rabbits as well as Woodworking, Small Engines and Great Outdoors. Members completed a combined total of 143 agricultural and home economics projects.

Aside from maintaining the quantity of project work, members are striving for quality. 4-H member Nena MacDonald from the Little Pond Club with her calf took top honors for the 4-H Junior Holsteins at the Maritime Winter Fair and events like this help promote the 4-H livestock projects in the District.

The Souris District 4-H Council put forward a resolution regarding changes in the Rural Youth Fair.

The District Council sponsored a number of events including a Leader's Night, Bowling, District Communications, bus trip to Brudenell, day at Rainbow Valley, Beef Workshop, and sponsored seniors attending the Provincial Seniors Conference.

District Staff assisted members and leaders with information on various aspects of the 4-H program and activities and assisted clubs with re-organization, preparation for communications events, judging communications and judging Achievement Day items.

Media

The District is in contact with clientele by the following means:

Articles in District Section of CornerPost
PostScripts for W.I. News
Monthly 4-H newsletter
District Soil & Crop newsletter
Souris District radio show (every 5th week)
Souris District 4-H radio show
Various other Agr. & Home Ec. radio show topics
Home Economics radio show
Home Economics articles for Island newspapers
Miscellaneous interviews with newspaper reporters
Various flyers and circulars advertising meetings, courses, workshops.

Education Courses/Events for Clients

(This includes events where presentations were made or programs organized by staff)

Event	Attendance
Farm Income Tax Update	10
Crop Seminar '87	13
Rhyme & Reason (2)	24
New Zealand Community School - Microwaves	10
Eastern Kings Microwave Workshop	20
Welding Course	16
Calcium Calculator (2)	14
District Vet. Services Meeting	45
Agr. Software Selection	20
Two Microwave Workshops	42

3 Beef Cow-Calf Meetings - Bull Selection	29
Pastures for Beef	8
Reducing Somatic Cell Counts	3
Island Foods First & Last (3)	78
Field Sprayer Calibration	14
Potato Fertility	12
Food Preservation Workshop	15
Basic Nutrition	12
Potato Meeting with D.R.I.E.	9
Tansy Ragwort Field Tour	7
2 Beef Herd Health Meetings	17
Country Kitchen Christmas Workshops (3)	168
TOPS - Nutrition Presentation	18
Potato Grading Seminar	8
2 Nutrition Presentations	22
W.I. Running More Effective Meetings	12
District 4-H Council Annual Meeting	23

In addition to these, staff were involved in organization, participation or judging at a number of other activities which involved clientele. These included farm and rural organization meetings, fairs and exhibitions, 4-H reorganizational meetings and 4-H communications project events.

Other Client Events

(This category includes events attended by staff).

Event	Attendance
Potato National Marketing Agency Proposal	30
St. Peters Bay Community Development	8
Small Farms Dairy Meeting	8
Island Agr. Marketing Conference	
Judged Montague School Science Fair	100
Provincial Soil & Crop Annual Meeting	100
Provincial 4-H Annual Meeting	95
Federation of Agriculture Meetings	
District 4-H Leaders Night	30
Various Area W.I. Conventions	
Farm Business for Farm Women Conference	
Canadian 4-H Council Annual Meeting	
Provincial W.I. Convention	
Agr. Employment & Training Programs for Farmers	8
Potato Bruise Demo	8
Meeting on Occupational Health & Safety	12
Prov. Potato Fertility Update	100
District Dairy Producers Annual Meeting	12

Summerside District Office

Staff working out of the Summerside District Office provide a wide range of services and programs to their clients.

Agricultural Courses & Information Sessions

A wide variety of courses and information sessions were organized and/or promoted by office staff as a means for farmers to improve their management skills.

District	Attendance
Tripartite Stabilization	20
Somatic Cell Update	20
Income Tax Update	55
Dairy Seminar (Elliot Block)	38
Reproductive Seminar (Dr. Phil Watson)	30
Soil & Crop Information Day	25
Bale Wrapper Slide Presentation	8
Provincial Feedlot School (Charlottetown)	80
Cow/Calf Field Day (Alberton)	30
Soil & Crop Seminar (Charlottetown)	150
Ecological Agriculture (Charlottetown)	30
Herd Health Meeting (O'Leary)	50
Credit Applications Farm Credit Corporation	6
Land Development Corporation	12
Provincial Lending Authority	6
Cash Flows	10
Chartered Banks	10
Farm Debt Review Board	6

Misc. Extension Activities	Client Contact
Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative	173*
pH Adjustment Program	188*
Special Canadian Grains Program	400 - *
Gas Tax Rebate	75 - *
Federal Feed Freight Assistance	25 - *
Prov. Limestone Assistance	25 - *
Quota Exchange Forms	50 -
Hog Incentive Program	10 -
Ration Formulation	25 -
New Farmer Interest Rebate Program	1
Soil & Crop Conservation Program	25 -
Agri-Food Market Development Program	10
Productivity Enhancement Program	5

*Applications

Demonstrations	Participation
Bale Wrapper Demonstration	20
Ragwort Control Demonstration	5
Brillion Seeder Use	24
Soil & Crop Plots	
- Demo. Plots	30*
- Variety Barley	6*
- Variety Oats	3

*Varieties

Tours

March Break Tour (Vet College, Garden Prov. Meats)	45
Soil & Crop Tour	60
District Dairy Tour	28
Prov. Dairy Tour	30
Institute of Agrologists' Tour	20
Alberta Beef Tour	11
4-H President's Tour (Maritime Winter Fair)	11

Involvement With Farm Organizations/Agri Business

S'Side Dist. Dairy Producers Annual Meeting (Jan.87)	24
S'Side Dist. Dairy Producers Annual Meeting (Dec.87)	12
S'Side Lobster Carnival	25
S'Side Lobster Carnival Committee Meetings (4)	6(D)
PEI Holstein Breeders Annual Meeting (S'Side)	100
PEI Cattlemen's Assn. Annual Meeting (Ch'Town)	50
Farm Machinery Show (Moncton)	
Nappan Bull Sale	
West Prince Steer Show	
Lot 16 Community Pasture Meeting	15
P.E.I. Cattlemen's Assn. Meeting (S'Side)	10
Egmont Bay Exhibition	
Community Pasture Meetings	
Ellerslie - 4	8(D)
Kelly's Cross - 1	8(D)
Alberta Beef Tour Presentation (Ch'Town)	20
Dairy Policy Seminar (Ch'Town)	
Soil & Water Conservation Seminar (S'Side)	75
Bank of Montreal Agri. Outlook Seminar (Ch'Town)	
Soil & Crop Directors Meeting (2)	8
Soil & Crop Provincial Directors Meeting (10)	20
W.S.A. Information Meeting	10
W.S.A. Annual Meeting	25
Old Home Week Livestock Exhibition (Ch'Town)	
Kensington Queen Elizabeth School (Career Day)	
Potato Grading Seminar & Tour	
(Kinkora)	20
(Miscouche)	10
Monitored Blight Station	
Monitored Aphid Alert Stations	
Cream Producers Meeting (Crapaud)	8
Kensington 4-H Livestock Show	
Potato Producers Annual Meeting	
Occupational Health & Safety Public Meeting (S'Side)	20
Federation of Agriculture Meeting	
Potato Day (Ch'Town)	100
Outstanding Young Farmers Competition	5

4-H

No. of Clubs	10
No. of Members	162
No. of 4-H Leaders	70
No. of 4-H Projects Completed	362
Achievement Days	10
Communication Nights	
- 10 Club Competitions	300+
- 3 Area Rallies	100+
- 1 District Rally	50+
4-H Leaders Banquet	95
Intermediate Conference	29
Junior Day	41
4-H District Council Meetings (5)	55
4-H Executive Meeting (1)	6
4-H Annual Meeting	45
Interviews for Allison Profitt Memorial Trophy	6
President's Tour to Maritime Winter Fair	11
4-H Information Night (4-H Week)	40
Microwaving With Island Products	
- Leaders W'Shop	11
Re-Organization Meetings (10)	200+
Lobster Carnival (Co-ordinated 4-H Activities)	
Egmont Bay Exhibition (Co-ordinated 4-H Activities)	
Home Management	
Spoke to 6 W.I. Groups	76
Attended W.I. Conventions (6)	392
Attended Fall Workshop	50
Co-ordinated Country Kitchen Christmas	
- S'Side (2)	137
- O'Leary (1)	42
Participated in Computer Course (1 Day)	
Attended Meat Awareness Session at Prince Edward Centre	
Attended Agriculture Conference	
Preserving The Harvest (2) S'Side	
Preserving Update with Claudette Levesque (Bernardine)	
4-H Newsletter (150 Circulation)	8
Farm Report	3
District Sunday Show	1
W.I. Radio	4
Cornerpost Articles	6
Food News Page	3
Step By Step Articles	
- Journal Pioneer & Guardian	21
Postscripts	1
4-H Tape	1

Spoke to St. Eleanor's Brownies (Nutrition)	22
Spoke to Somerset Elementary Grade 7 (Nutrition)	25
Spoke to Elm Street Elementary (Nutrition)	40
Step By Step Home Study Program	10
Vegetable Garden Session	12
Job Re-Entry Group, Holland College (Budgeting, Food Buying and Time Management)	15
Island Products First & Last Demo.	
- S'Side	57
- O'Leary	35
Judged at Egmont Bay Exhibition	
Assisted with Farm Business for Farm Women Conference	
Assisted at W.S.A. Meeting	
Attended W.S.A. Conference - Back To The Future	

West Prince District Office

The year 1987 was one of transition in the West Prince Office. The Home Economist was on maternity leave from June 1. Home economic activities were carried out by a temporary replacement until September 4. On September 7, Valorie MacKinnon assumed the D.H.E. position for the rest of the leave.

On August 14, the Farm Management Representative left on a two-year educational leave. This position remained vacant for the remainder of the year. A positive step this year was the Dairy Inspector position being made a part of the office staff. William MacKendrick has done an excellent job in this position for the short time he has been working.

Our emphasis this year was placed as follows:

1. Farm and Home Management
2. A.L.F.I. Program
3. Forage Improvement
4. Leadership Development
5. Food & Nutrition Promotion
6. Beef Cow Calf Program
7. Dairy Management

In reviewing the commodities, we feel the following results have been achieved:

Farm and Home Management remains a priority of this office. The commodities hardest hit this year were the potato industry, followed by hogs.

Our micro computer was heavily used this year, especially in the spring for preparing cashflows and other financial plans for 1987.

During the year, the following financial statements were prepared with farmers:

Cashflows	113
Income & Expense Projections	71
Balance Sheets	56
Loan Calculator	20
Family Budgeting	12

This year brought the crunch to five farmers who are now before the Farm Debt Review Board. District Staff are working closely with two of these producers in their dealings with the board and creditors.

The Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative (A.L.F.I.), Program, despite some initial problems, has been an excellent means of improving the quality and volume of forage and cereal storage for farmers. One hundred and eleven West Prince farmers have applied under this program.

Cereal and Forage

Emphasis on forage improvement, which is a priority in this region, was given an additional boost by the A.L.F.I. and pH Adjustment Programs. These two programs have assisted the cereal and forage programs in making tremendous strides during the last two years.

Utilizing casual and summer student workers to collect samples quickly for lab analysis gave us the field presence we needed to obtain quick responses for concerned farmers.

Forages continue to improve in quality this year with farmers planting more Alfalfa and Trefoil. Rye grass, after declining in popularity over the past two years, made a strong recovery this year. However, with the extremely dry conditions this past summer, forages may suffer a set back in the spring of 1988.

Cereal production turned out very well, considering the dry summer. The cereals sampled were lower in protein and T.D.N. this year compared to 1986.

Winter cereals this year were almost non-existent with approximately 12 acres of winter wheat and 30 acres of winter rye.

The West Prince Soils and Crops Association has continued to be instrumental in improving cereal and forage production. The depressed market prices have caused a decline in the interest in intensive cereal management.

Soybean acreage decreased considerably for 1986. Yields varied considerably again due to the very dry conditions we experienced.

The Special Canadian Grains Program gave us a good handle on the acreage and variety of grains grown in the West Prince area. This program generated a considerable amount of work for a two-and-one-half-month period.

The potato industry continued to suffer financially as well as in production terms. Growth problems, due to the dry conditions, caused yields to vary considerably, depending on soil profiles and conditions, fertilizers used and variety grown.

This, on top of the low prices for 1985 and 1986, and the depressed grain prices, have caused severe hardship in the potato industry.

As proof: four of the farm operations in various stages at the Farm Debt Review Board, are potato farms.

Information from an earlier survey of potato producers in West Prince indicated 168 farm operations growing potatoes. The following table gives the breakdown:

Potato Farms	Acreage
51	Less Than 20
42	20-50
35	50-100
20	100-200
14	200-300
4	300-400
2	400+

Other activities in field crops were as follows:

1. the summer student made two calls per week on four farms. All four had aphid traps and two were involved in the blight program;
2. a potato grading seminar was held in the fall with 19 farmers or farm workers present;
3. forage samples were taken once a week for five weeks from seven farms in West Prince;
4. in the crop scouting program, the summer student made 22 calls over an 11-week period where turnip, carrot, and parsnip fields were checked for various pests and diseases;
5. potato tissue sampling was down in this area;
6. the potato pathologist and potato specialist made a number of farm calls due to concerns about the effect of weather conditions, particularly moisture stress, on potato crops;
7. the summer student took soil samples at two of the community pastures;
8. soil tissue samples were taken to help solve maturing problems in greenhouse tomatoes;
9. the summer student also spent some time reviewing a survey completed on wild oats in West Prince. This 10-week project was sponsored by the West Prince Advisory Board under our supervision. No wild oats were discovered in West Prince;
10. District workers prepared a section of a farmer's field and planted 10 varieties of forage for maturity sampling in 1988;
11. the pH Adjustment Program was slow to catch on but by the end of the period, 137 farmers or landowners had applied. Only 19 farmers completed liming this year.

Leadership Development

In Leadership Development, time was spent with the following groups:

1. 4-H
2. Women's Institute
3. Women In Support Of Agriculture (W.S.A.)
4. West Prince Soil & Crop Association
5. Junior Farmers
6. Exhibitions

In 4-H, the three clubs active in West Prince are O'Leary, Duvar and Elmsdale. This was a successful year with 65 members involved and more than 120 projects completed. Most members who have been involved for more than one year are taking two or more projects. The clubs participated extensively this year in the following exhibitions: Alberton, Egmont Bay, Summerside, Kensington, Old Home Week, Crapaud, and the Rural Youth Fair.

A 4-H camp for Junior Members was held during the end of June with 20 members at the camp.

The West Prince 4-H Council held ll meetings in 1987. The council was instrumental in:

1. conducting judging and clipping clinics for beef and dairy, and judging clinics for Home Economic projects;
2. the council co-ordinated the work involving the implementation of a successful Open House Canada Exchange Tour to the Province of Alberta;
3. co-sponsored and organized an Intermediate 4-H Conference with East Prince District held in Summerside. Twenty-five members from the two districts participated;
4. a 4-H Ice Sports program and curling afternoon was also held in 1987;
5. at the District Public Speaking Competition, approximately 50 people attended. The turnout was excellent.

All three clubs have re-organized for the 1987-88 year. Enrollment this year is up to 78 members and 22 leaders.

West Prince members participated in the Provincial Executive Training Workshop.

This year, the Provincial vice-president is Eric Phillips from O'Leary.

Women's Institute

Leona Moran and Valorie MacKinnon, Home Economists, were both involved in presentations and requests for meeting materials for various W.I. groups in West Prince. They made 14 presentations to approximately 322 ladies. Three presentations were made at W.I. conventions this year involving 195 ladies.

Assistance was provided in the planning of a seminar for women which was co-sponsored by the P.E.I. Women's Network and the Federated W.I. of P.E.I.

Women in Support of Agriculture

Leona Moran was instrumental in co-ordinating the planning for the Provincial Farm Business For Farm Women's Conference. She was extensively involved in two local W.S.A. and farm women's programs. Presentations were made on Time Management, Budgeting and Estate Planning.

The local W.S.A. held a successful annual meeting with 36 women attending.

The Home Economist attended three meetings and assisted them in organizing and planning their main fund-raising event. She also made a presentation on the use of food dollars for the local group.

West Prince Soil & Crops Association

This association, with a membership of 112, is one of the most active organizations in West Prince. Activities in 1987 involved the following:

1. set up, monitored and sampled 12 different district plots plus monitored three provincial plots;
2. transported and maintained the following equipment: Brillion seeder, rock rake, sub-soiler, and chisel plow;
3. the chisel plow was used on 567 acres;
4. this year the brillion seeder was used by 56 farmers planting 485 acres;
5. the rock rake was used on three farms in the Tyne Valley area. Thirty-seven acres were covered by this machine;
6. six farmers used the sub-soiler this year for a total of thirty-eight acres;
7. provincial competitions in potato, cereal, forage, soybean, haylage, and silage were entered by various members with the assistance of the fieldman;
8. members also entered the forage and silage competition at the Machinery Show in Moncton, N.B. Other members also entered potatoes at the Maritime Winter Fair;
9. a Soils and Crops tour was planned and conducted;
10. specific plot work with a natural growth regulator (Nitrozyme) was tried on the following crops: potatoes, soybean, barley, wheat, oats, and corn;
11. the hay competition at the Alberton Exhibition was sponsored by the association;
12. six directors meetings were held;
13. the Annual Meeting and Banquet was held with an attendance of 67.

Junior Farmers

The Junior Farmers remained committed to farm safety, especially with tractors. Again this year, they sponsored and donated trophies to the West Prince 4-H Tractor Rodeo.

Exhibitions

District staff were involved in four exhibitions this year - Alberton, Summerside, Egmont Bay and the Rural Youth Fair.

Other Farm Groups

In addition to the above groups, we also worked with the following:

1. West Prince Spring Beef Club
2. West Prince Swine Assembly Co-Op
3. Prince County Plowing Match
4. Tignish Blueberry Co-Op
5. West Prince Dairy Producers Association
6. Western Holstein Club
7. Prince County Cattlemen's Club (New club)

Home and Financial Management programs conducted by the District Home Economist are categorized into three major areas:

1. Food and Nutrition Product Promotion
2. Management
3. Leadership Development

Food and Nutrition Product Promotion

In this area the following activities were carried out:

1. assisted a farmers market group with promotional ideas;
2. presentations on Preserving The Harvest were presented in three regions, resulting in numerous requests for reference material;
3. five sessions, usually a combination of nutrition education and product promotion, were made to commodity groups. These sessions often included a discussion on the food system;
4. three successful presentations of Country Kitchen Christmas were completed. Two programs were conducted in Summerside and one in O'Leary, with a total of 179 participants in the three sessions. Each session consisted of foods and crafts demonstrations in addition to a tasting session;
5. presentation of "Rhyme and Reason - Insights Into Your Grocery Cart" was given to six groups with a total of 100 clients present;
6. Leona Moran worked with Bev Boulter, P.E.I. Farm Safety Co-Ordinator, on two farm safety projects;
7. a total of 20 courses on Food and Nutrition were held during the year with about 620 clients;

8. Approximately 2100 publications were provided to the public;
9. Approximately 230 consumer requests were handled;
10. Media contacts
    - 3 Food News pages for CornerPost
    - 8 Radio interviews
    - Articles in the Journal Pioneer, Western Graphic, and the Guardian

Management

1. In the Management Section, the two major areas are Financial and Time Management. Information was discussed with more than 156 clients by farm and office calls;
2. On a bi-monthly basis, Step By Step Money Management articles are written for the Journal Pioneer and the Guardian. Ten were completed through this office;
3. a total of 14 courses were presented on budgeting and records;
4. approximately 1190 publications were provided to the public;
5. Four seminars were presented at Holland College in the Job Re-entry Program, to a total of 79 students.

Livestock

Beef

In the beef sector this year, again we were very active with the producers in West Prince. Approximately 84 farms in the district raise beef.

The Prince County Spring Beef Show and Sale had a strong show this year. The 4-H steer class had the largest number of entries. The 4-H Champion sold for $2.17, the same as the 1986 price.

In July, a number of beef producers held meetings and organized a new beef group. This group is called the Prince County Cattlemen's Club.

Dairy

The number of dairy producers in the district decreased by five during the year.

In 1987, the D.H.A.S. Program has maintained a constant client load.

A survey produced the following profile of the dairy sector in West Prince:

Industrial Producers

Number Of Farms	Number Of Cattle
23	Less Than 20
21	20-25
16	25-30
6	30-35
6	35-40
4	40+

Fluid Producers

Number Of Farms	Number Of Cattle
4	20-30
4	30-40
4	40+

The West Prince Dairy Producers Association and West Prince Holstein Club are quite active in this area. It should also be noted that 90 per cent of the Junior Farmers are dairy people.

An important objective is to reduce the somatic cell count to the provincial average and preferably below the average. With the Dairy Inspector for West Prince District working out of the District Office, improvement in this area can be achieved.

Ron Sampson, Dairy Extension Technologist, has also made contacts with the dairy producers in relation to milking procedures and equipment care and operation.

Poultry

Production in the egg sector remained constant in 1987. Since most of the production is controlled by quota, the four main producers remain stable.

A new killing plant was opened in August. At least 25 farms developed a small broiler enterprise. An increased number of farms are raising geese, ducks and turkeys.

Foxes

There are approximately 80 ranches in the district with the following breakdown in size:

Number of Ranches	Number of Breeding Females
20	10-15
15	20-30
10	45-50
15	50-100
15	100+
5	200+

Sheep

Sheep production has remained constant this year. In most cases it is a sideline enterprise. We have approximately four farms which are raising sheep as a primary enterprise.

Trout Farming

Trout farming has appeared on the scene in West Prince in 1987, with one person actively involved. Inquiries about the opportunities and capital investment required in trout farming have been received from a few other individuals.

Training

The following courses were presented by this office:

1. Farm Electrical (first time)
2. Hydraulics (first time)
3. Forage Equipment
4. Cereal Equipment
5. Dairy Financial Management Course
6. Forage Seminar
7. Pasture and Silage Seminar
8. Beef Day
9. Feedlot School (3 producers attended in S'Side)
10. Income Tax Management
11. Somatic Cell Seminar
12. Gardening Workshop

Crops Section

Staff of the Crops Section continued to provide farm operators in Prince Edward Island with the latest information and services necessary to enhance production while maintaining or reducing input costs. Delivery of technical information to individual farmers and commodity associations either directly or through the district offices is the predominant activity of the Crops Section staff. Some highlights include:

- continued emphasis on both cereals and quality forage; in particular milling wheat, intensive cereal management, alfalfa, and silage;
- increased interest and activity in diversification into alternate crops such as colored beans, small fruits and vegetables;
- increased interest in alternate methods of production for residue free foods.
- monitoring of projects developed in co-operation with Agriculture Canada's Productivity Enhancement Technology Development and Crop Health Programs;
- development of an effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy;
- implementation of Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative (ALFI) programs;
- issuing a weekly crop report during the growing season to the media and various news interviews conducted on general crop conditions.

Cereals

Despite the drought, excellent cereal yields were recorded across P.E.I. in 1987 except in the extreme north west section. Good snow cover last winter, combined with mild spring weather, ensured excellent winter cereal survival. this resulted in higher than average yields.

Spring cereal seeding began early in 1987. Good weather in late April and early May enabled most producers to get a percentage of their acreage seeded early. The early start with good soil moisture was followed by clear fine weather with very little rain until mid June. Heavy rains during June combined with warm weather stimulated heavy tilling in cereals which resulted in thick profile stands of cereals in most fields by early July.

July was one of the driest on record. This both helped and hindered the cereal crop. This drought rendered the supplementary Nitrogen applications essentially useless and drastically affected the kernel filling and ultimately reduced size and weight of the cereal kernel. On the other hand, the very hot, dry weather curtailed disease development which offset the reduced kernel size.

This hot dry weather caused the cereals to ripen 10 days earlier than normal which enabled producers to begin harvest of winter wheat and high moisture barley by July 31. Much of the barley crop graded .2 and .3 due to small kernel size. Milling wheat acreage increased to approximately 2500 acres this season. Good yields of high quality wheat were obtained in most cases, except late harvested crops which sprouted after three weeks of wet weather in September.

Cereal acreage was reduced by 9000 acres in 1987 from 1986.

Acreages of Cereal, Forage & Protein Crops

	1986	1987
Spring Wheat	6,500	9,000
Winter Wheat	5,300	4,000
Barley	68,000	66,000
Mixed Grain	62,000	62,000
Oats	27,000	24,000
Conserved Forage	20,404	22,267
Pastures	14,979	14,979
Corn	3,500	3,500
Soybeans	6,000	3,500
Total Acreage	213,683	209,246

Soybeans

Due to the very poor soybean yields in 1986, soybean acreage was reduced in 1987 to approximately 3500 acres. The July and August drought affected the soybean yields resulting in a poor acreage of approximately 1500 lbs./acre.

Corn

Fodder corn acreage remained steady at 3500 acres. Yields and quality were excellent in 1987. High moisture grain corn was produced on approximately 1000 acres. It was a terrific year in corn with most hybrids recommended for grain corn in our zone reaching physiological maturity by early October and some better hybrids were below 30 per cent moisture. Yields of high moisture grain corn have exceeded 100 per acre on some farms. Corn heat units to September 24 were 2567 up 300 from 1986 but only three above the 30 year average. The hours of bright sunshine reached 1154 which was 183 more than 1986 and 137 above the 30-year average. This contributed to the high yields and quality of most crops despite the drought.

Forage Crops

The 1987 crop season saw the acreage of conserved forage increase to 55,000 ha from 50,400 in 1986. Pasture remained nearly consistent at 37,00 ha. The last census figures show that approximately 60 per cent of pasture on the Island receive some form of improvement designed to increase productivity.

Warm, dry weather conditions in late June and July ensured that the majority of conserved forages were put up in excellent condition.

However, continuation of the dry weather reduced second cuts of forage and worsened the annual decline in perennial pastures. Many farmers were forced to supplement pastures with conserved forages earlier than usual.

Assistance Programs and Policies for Cereals and Forages

The Quality Seed Assistance Program aims to promote the use of treated Pedigreed Seed in cereal, protein and forage crops across P.E.I. This program continued in 1987 with applications received to the end of December.

A Soybean Seed Incentive Policy was initiated for 1987 to encourage continued and expanded acreages of soybeans on P.E.I. This program received 6 applications in 1987.

The Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program has had a significant effect on cereal and forage extension. In forages two programs, Technology Evaluation and Handling, and Storage and Marketing Organization, have had approximately 318 approved items which involve the forage industry.

The Technology Evaluation program has seen many applications involving new techniques, such as silage/hay preservatives, hay dessicants and bale wrappers. Many of the other projects concerned forage establishment, round bales for silage and plastics for silage.

Under the Handling, Storage, and Marketing Program the largest category of applications was for improved hay storage and equipment such as hay dryers and escalators.

Cereal production has also benefited from the ALFI Programs, particularly the Handling, Storage and Marketing Program.

Many of the above projects will not only assist the applicants in adapting new technology to their operations, it will also allow friends and neighbours to assess the potential of such technology on farms.

Activities with Producer Groups in Cereal and Forages

The Crops Section works closely with the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association. Demonstration projects on member's farms took place in the five agricultural districts.

Testing of cereal, forage and protein crops using the newest varieties available in combination with new management approaches constituted a major part of the association's activities across the province.

Intensive cereal management trials were conducted on winter cereals, spring wheat and barley. The association provided technical advice, fungicides and growth regulators to the co- operating producers, as well as taking yield tests at harvest to demonstrate the benefits of this new management system.

Crops seminars were conducted in each district. These seminars provided producers with information on the performance of the newest cereal and protein crop varieties and the results of the intensive cereal management trials.

A Productivity Enhancement Program Project on Alfalfa Management is underway. This three-year project is evaluating the productivity and economics of a two-cut management system per year, to a three-cut management system per year. The establishment of the alfalfa crop will be evaluated by underseeding alfalfa with cereals and by direct seeding.

Farmer tours were conducted in each district in August to view the cereal and forage projects carried out by the association.

Yields and quality competitions were held for hay silage, cereal grains, protein crops, and potatoes. The S.C.I.A. had a display of the winning hay entries at the Charlottetown Exhibition.

The Department of Agriculture is represented on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Seed Grower's Association and the representative attended their annual meeting in Saskatoon and their Director's meeting in Ottawa, to discuss the latest issues in the seed grain industry.

The C.S.G.A. sets the standards and production regulations and negotiates with Agriculture Canada to maintain budgets for agricultural research.

SeCan Association is a unique partnership of seed growers, seed firms and government departments dedicated to production and marketing of new varieties of crops developed in Canada. The department has a representative on the Board of Directors who attended their annual meeting in Saskatoon in 1987.

Some of the varieties recommended in the Atlantic Region distributed through SeCan are Milton and Belvedere spring wheat; Leger and MicMac barley; Shaw and Sentinel oats; Marion and Nova as well as Valor and Borden winter wheats.

Vegetables

The unusually warm dry summer was not particularly good for the production of early season vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, or brussel sprouts; although weather conditions later in the season did assist the brussel sprout and late cabbage crop, where yields were average to high. Early crop development was hampered by dry conditions, insect pressure and cool temperatures early in the season. Late seeded rutabaga suffered severe germination problems and heavy insect pressure, however, yields of most root crops, particularly carrots, were generally excellent Warm season crops, such as sweet corn and tomatoes fared well in what was a consistently warm season.

Crop development projects on alternate horticultural crops continued with the establishment of a plot of exploratory ginseng late in the fall.

Extension activities in vegetables include:

- vegetable newsletters;
- organization of a brussel sprout producer's tour to Annapolis Valley; toured vegetable operations in Kentville and Agriculture Canada Research Sites;
- co-operation with the P.E.I. Horticultural Association in the operation of a crop scouting program for vegetables and tender fruit producers;
- assisted the P.E.I. Horticultural Association in three Agriculture Canada funded projects;
  1. fruit & Vegetable Production Demonstration Project
  2. horticultural Crop Disease Management Project
  3. horticultural Crop Cultivar Evaluation:
- assisted Small Farms Program in training program for Master Gardener Program
- lectures and short courses - home garden, commercial vegetable production.

Prince Edward Island Vegetable Acreages for 1987

	1986	1987
Beans	202	15
Beets	10	5
Brussel Sprouts	100	120
Broccoli	15	70
Cabbage	225	170
Carrots	200	210
Cauliflower	40	125
Corn	75	60
Cucumbers	50	30
Lettuce	35	45
Onions	0	0
Parsnips	252	35
Rutabagas	500	525
Squash	6	20
Tomatoes	6	6

Tobacco

The 1987 Yield of tobacco was well above the five-year average due to a combination of favorable climatic conditions throughout the growing season. Several disease problems, noticeably Scleretonia and Rhizoctonia caused isolated but severe crop losses.

Extension activities included:

- follow-up with producers involved in the Financial Management Workshop for tobacco producers;
- Annual winter seminar highlighting quality and production tips was held in co-operation with the P.E.I. Tobacco Commodity Marketing Board and Agriculture Canada.
- Tobacco Competition;
- Annual Tobacco Field-Day; and
- organizing the annual Tobacco Sales Day.

As well, activities focused on continuing efforts to evaluate options open to tobacco producers wanting to diversify. Activities considered on-going include extensive in-field consultation in all facets of tobacco production, several newsletters, as well as administrative and technical support to the association.

Tobacco Production 1985 - 1987

	1985	1986	1987
No. of farms	78	72	58
No. of acres	3722.6	3694.8	3444.8
Total Pounds	5,889,100	5,692,000	7,646,500
Yield/Acre (lbs.)	1582	1540	2220
Total Value ($)	10,400,151	10,430,477	14,274,280
Value/Lb.	$ 1.766	$ 1.832	$ 1.867

Strawberries

Yields were down from last year for a provincial total of 1.5 million quarts. The drop in yield was attributed to the dry summer. Quality of the fruit was considered good due to the low levels of storage diseases. The commercial fruiting acreage remained steady at about 400 acres with the majority of the harvest going to the fresh market. The total value of the fruiting crop was $1,650,000.

The major growth in the strawberry industry came in the area of strawberry nursery stock production. A total of 1.4 million strawberry plants were shipped to Spain and U.S.A. The gross value of the export was $92,400.

In addition, the Crops Section provided five growers with a crop scouting service. Through frequent monitoring of the fields, the crop scouts provided the grower with up-to-date reports on the presence of specific target pests in their fields. Development of a weed identification garden was initiated in 1987 to assist growers and extension workers in identification of weeds through all stages of the growing season.

Certified Strawberry Nursery Program

Through the inspection and certification service, local strawberry producers will have access to high quality, disease- free local nursery stock.

With the development of a strawberry nursery export trade, the certification program takes on a new importance as an essential aspect in maintaining and increasing Prince Edward Island's share of the offshore nursery markets. Certification is a phytosanitary requirement for entry of strawberry stock into some foreign markets.

Due to the increasing importance of certification, a joint committee between the province and the Strawberry Growers Association was set up to continue development of the Strawberry Certification Program. As well, work was initiated in developing virus indexing procedures to complement the certification program.

Four nurseries were inspected in 1987, and all of them were eligible for certification.

Strawberry Grower's Association

The P.E.I. Strawberry Grower's Association has approximately 20 members and is active in producer education and product promotion. The annual meeting, which was held in March, featured discussions on fertility management and pest control. A two-day program on organic strawberry production was held in June with guest speaker Thomas B. Harding Jr., of Pennsylvania.

Extension Activities mostly dealt with individual inquiries from growers in the areas of weed and pest control, cultural practices, new varieties and interpretation of soil and tissue analysis.

Blueberries

A good fruit set combined with poor size due to the dry weather produced an average crop. Approximately 911,000 lbs. of blueberries were harvested in 1986 up from 500,000 lbs. in 1986. The total value of the crop was estimated at $546,000.

Extension activities centered around responding to inquiries from individual growers. Most of the inquiries related to weed control, identification of economically important pests and diseases and interpretation of soil and tissue analysis.

In addition, the Crop Section developed criteria and assisted in the selection of select clones for meristem culture. Currently 30,000 of these clones are under production by a local meristem culture laboratory for delivery of members of the Blueberry Grower's Association in 1988.

Development of a weed identification garden was initiated in 1987 to assist growers and extension workers in identification of weeds through all stages of the growing season.

Blueberry Grower's Association

The Association has approximately 30 members across the Island. The association is involved in various ERDA projects and blueberry promotion.

Blueberry Marketing Co-op

The Co-op acts as a marketing agent for its 21 member growers. The Marketing Co-op sold 166,471 kg. (367,000 lbs.) of blueberries in 1987, all of which were destined for processing.

Raspberries

Yield was considered average. Fruit quality was good with very little fruit rot and almost no late yellow rust. The entire harvest went to the fresh retail or U-pick markets.

Most inquiries directed towards the Crops Section pertained to cultural practices recommended for the Maritime region. Inquiries relating to pest and weed control, and insect and disease identification were also handled by the section. Two raspberry growers participated in the crop scouting program.

Raspberry Growers Association

The P.E.I. Raspberry Growers Association has a membership of 15-20 members. The association has been active since 1985 in the areas of producer education and product promotion. Association activities in 1987 included an annual meeting, a June field trip to Nova Scotia, the second annual "Raspberry Festival" and one member of the Association toured the raspberry production regions of Scotland.

Other Fruit Crops

Crop Section staff were involved in a number of activities of wide range of minor fruit crops, including cultivated cranberry bogs, apples, pears, plums, container grower peaches, currants and grapes.

Honey Bees

An exceptionally good year for honey production due to favorable weather resulted in an above average crop of honey. Seventy-nine beekeepers with 682 active hives produced 34,100 kg. (75,176 lbs.) of honey.

The main effort of Crop Section Staff involved administration of the Apiary Inspection Act. Six hundred and forty two colonies were inspected. Twelve incidences of Foul Brood were identified and dealt with. In addition, Crops Section staff carried out a Varroa Mite Survey as part of a coordinated national effort to identify areas infected with this important honeybee pest.

Beekeeper's Co-op Association

The association with 125 members provides important services such as honey promotion, bulk purchase of package bees and organizing information sessions. The Association in cooperation with the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture also administers the activities of the provincial bee inspector.

Greenhouse

The Island's greenhouse sector continues to expand with a 15-20 per cent increase in bedding plant direct sales. Green house vegetable producers as well have expanded to effectively double the area under protected environment, meeting increased market demand for tomatoes, and Long English seedless cucumbers.

Extension Activities

Technical assistance and administrative support to the P.E.I. Greenhouse Grower's Association and its individual members encouraging active participation in their industry through:

- Technical update sessions;
- Attendance at the 1987 Canadian Greenhouse Conference;
- 1987 Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Greenhouse Grower's Association and Spring Conference;
- Launched a new promotional program with Federal/ Provincial industry proportioned support.
- Technical, promotional and administrative support through use of provincial and out-of-province specialists on marketing and production of greenhouse crops and;
- Several newsletters highlighting technical aspects of greenhouse crop production.

Engineering Section

The Engineering Section staff provides information and programs to individual farm operators and the agricultural industry in general in the following areas:

- planning and design of farm buildings and systems
- farm machinery information and farm safety
- planning and design of land drainage systems
- planning and design of soil and water conservation systems
- farm energy conservations

Farm Building Extension Program

Farm building planning and design services are provided by the Engineering Supervisor/Farm Buildings Engineer, and the Engineering Technologist in Charlottetown office and the District Engineer in Summerside.

During 1987, there was a good level of activity in farm building construction and renovations. The Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative (A.L.F.I.) encouraged many producers to construct hay storages, grain storages and install feed processing and handling systems.

The swine incentive program stimulated construction of several new sow and hog feeder barns as well as renovations to existing facilities. Upgrading of ventilation systems in livestock barns also received considerable attention.

The dry growing conditions and the poor market outlook for potatoes postponed construction of some planned potato storages, however, several smaller on-farm storages and grading rooms were built. A large wash and count pack potato grading and packaging facility is being constructed in West Prince County.

Planning assistance was given to several other commodities including dairy, poultry, foxes, horses, vegetables and greenhouses.

The District Engineer in servicing Prince County clients prepared 34 new plans. Approximately 300 copies of building plans and 150 publications and leaflets were distributed. About 730 telephone calls, 180 office consultations and 210 farm calls were made dealing with all aspects of extension engineering.

In addition to providing information on farm structures, the District Engineer provides recommendations for management of building systems, manure storage and management, farmstead planning, building material selection, equipment information and assessing ventilation systems in livestock farms and potato warehouses.

CornerPost articles were prepared on a variety of engineering topics. The District Engineer also participated in many departmental activities, and Atlantic Provinces committee projects, conferences and workshops.

The draftsman completed 40 new building plans as well as revisions to several other plans. Approximately 150 plan sets and over 200 information leaflets were distributed to farm operators. All the present building plans were reviewed prior to establishing a new vertical filing system for the plans.

The Engineering Supervisor/Farm Building Engineer provided farm building information to producers in Queens and Kings Counties through the district offices in Charlottetown, Montague and Souris. Approximately 75 farm calls were made and 90 office interviews were conducted to discuss the various aspects of planning and construction of farm buildings.

In addition to coordinating the activities of the Engineering Section, the Engineering Supervisor is involved with special projects such as guidelines for livestock manure management, renovations to the P.E.I. Quality Swine Unit, refrigeration systems for potato storages, Canada Plan Service, and activities associated with regional and national engineering organizations and committees.

Farm Machinery Extension Program

Producers and Professional Contacts

The farm machinery program continues to provide information to farm operators on the purchasing, operation, management and maintenance of farm machinery. This is done through individual contact, CornerPost articles, radio interviews and field day events. More than 500 producer contacts were made during the year. In addition, approximately 200 contacts were made with other professional and machinery industry personnel.

P.E.I. Farm Machinery Board

The farm machinery specialist continues to serve as the secretary-manager of the P.E.I. Farm Machinery Board. During 1987, four major farm machinery problem areas were investigated. Three were solved successfully and the fourth, a matter relating to farm tractor safety, is well on the way to solution.

Atlantic Farm Machinery Show

The Atlantic Farm Machinery Show held bi-annually in the Agrena Complex in Moncton continues to draw large numbers of P.E.I. farmers. Due to inclement weather the attendance at the 1987 show was limited to about 22,000 persons. During the year, the A.F.M.S. was incorporated and the Farm Machinery Specialist represents the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture on the Board of Directors. This show has evolved into a major extension event relative to farm machinery.

Special Projects

In addition to the regular farmer contacts and extension work, 1987 saw the inclusion of several special projects as follows:

1) the development of a proposal for a provincial mechanization strategy in cooperation with the P.E.I. Development Agency.
2) technical advice to many of the projects under the Productivity Enhancement Program (P.E.P.)
3) technical advice to many of the projects under the Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program (A.L.F.I.). A project proposal on chemical application was presented to and accepted by the ALFI program.
4) a special report on farm machinery prices was presented to the Department of Agriculture.
5) considerable involvement occurred in relation to the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations. After a series of 10 private and five public meetings, a draft report on the concerns of farmers was developed and presented to the Department of Agriculture;
6) Involvement in several regional committees relating to farm machinery or agricultural engineering.

Energy Conservation Program

Under joint sponsorship of the Department of Agriculture and the P.E.I. Energy Corporation, the contract position for a farm energy conservation specialist in the engineering section was continued.

During the year, the Agricultural Energy Conservation Demonstration Project was concluded. A total of 17 project reports have been assembled and are available for distribution.

The Farm Energy Conservation Specialist attended two Farm Energy Management Task Force meetings. The present objective of the Task Force is to enforce the need for sound energy planning and management practices in the agricultural sector. An on going information exchange between the provincial energy specialists is maintained. The information is disseminated provincially using local media.

The energy conservation specialist assisted many producers by providing information regarding grain dryers, grain storage systems, and supplemental heating systems for livestock buildings. An information session was organized on grain drying and cleaning equipment.

Several studies were conducted including the potential of using emergency standby generating equipment as an alternate power source.

During the year a total of 138 farm visits were made and more than 50 office interviews were conducted.

Soil and Water Conservation Program Highlights

The work this year again involved providing plans for the Soil & Water Management and Conservation Program. One hundred and five new applications were received in 1987 bringing the total number of applications to 409 during the

first three years of the program. Detailed plans were completed for 102 projects and 71 final inspections were completed. Total planning under the Soil & Water program during 1987 included in excess of one million feet of tile and 80,000 feet of surface drainage. This included open ditching and grassed waterways and high capacity surface inlets for nine erosion control sites. Actual tile installations were up by 100 per cent over 1986 figures with total installations in excess of 600,000 feet. The majority of work now being planned is being installed and individual jobs are becoming much larger as farmers gain confidence from work already completed under the program.

The second major thrust of the Soil and Water Conservation Program involved the conception, design and supervision during construction of a diversion terrace project implemented under the Productivity Enhancement Program. The objective of the project was to demonstrate the effectiveness of diversion terraces in controlling sheet and rill erosion. Terraces were installed on approximately 210 acres at four sites at various locations in P.E.I. Installations included the construction of 25,000 feet of diversion terrace, 3500 feet of grassed waterway, 6500 feet of tile and high capacity surface inlets on all four sites as well as any required land shaping. This demonstration work has already improved farmer interest in doing work under the erosion component of the Soil & Water Program. Drainage design work was also completed for the proposed Georgetown golf course and the Souris High School playing field.

Computerized surveying equipment was acquired by the Engineering Section in late summer of 1987. This equipment has greatly improved the efficiency and accuracy of all required surveying work.

The Soil & Water Engineer attended the Acadia Section meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) in Orono, Maine. The ASAE annual winter meeting and national symposium on soil conservation both held in Chicago were also attended.

The Soil & Water Conservation Engineer continued to be the Island Director for the Atlantic Land Improvement Contractors Association, and the P.E.I. representative on the Advisory Committee on Soil and Water. He was also the P.E.I. Department of Agricultural representative on the stream alteration committee.

Seven district presentations were made during the year regarding soil conservation. Extension information on drainage and erosion control was disseminated through several CornerPost articles and radio interviews.

The Soil & Water Engineer participated in the judging of 4-H posters for National Soil Conservation Week. He also participated in a local t.v. program regarding soil conservation which was aired during Soil Conservation Week.

The Soil & Water Engineer's responsibilities also include administering the Fence Act. During the year a brief was presented to a Legislative Committee for developing a new Fence and Detention of Stray Livestock Act. In addition approximately 20 fence inquiries were handled during the year.

The Soil and Water Technologist continued to work extensively under all aspects of the Soil and Water Program and the PEP demonstration project. He was involved with initial and final inspections as well as surveying and design of individual projects. He made a presentation at a district meeting on soil conservation. He is also responsible for maintaining and booking subsoilers which were loaned to 25 farmers in 1987.

Farm Development Section

The Farm Development Section contributes to the development of Agriculture in Prince Edward Island through:

- The co-ordination of the Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program;
- The co-ordination of Productivity Enhancement projects with the department;
- Cost of production studies of the major agricultural commodities and the development of support materials, including computer programs for financial management training and counselling activities.

The major area of activity was in the start up and management of the initiatives available under the Canada/ Prince Edward Island Subsidiary Agreement on Livestock Feed Development 1987-1991.

Beginning Farmers Interest Rebate Program

This program is taking no new applications but has one year left in the payout under the program. Four individuals received rebates in 1987. The rebate paid was $2,796 for an average rebate of $699.00.

Productivity Enhancement Program

This program continued to be active with five of the original approved projects being completed. Two which were under consideration have been approved and five have been withdrawn. Forty-two new projects were officially handled and reviewed. Decisions to date are as follows:

19 approved
6 rejected
4 withdrawn
13 under consideration

Funding approved for these projects was $534,152 with approved funding to date under the program of $21,664,024.

Cost of Production Data

Data was gathered for industrial and fluid milk, potatoes and swine. Following is the summary:

Commodity	Farmers Contacted	Surveyed	No. Used in Analysis
Potato	40	20	17
Swine	24	17	15
Dairy			
- Industrial	62	20	19
- Fluid	6	6	6

Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative Program

The initiatives under this program are to make the Province less vulnerable to changes in world market conditions, to enhance the province's contribution to the national economy and to maximize employment opportunities. There are four program areas. A summary of action under each program follows:

	Applications	Approved	Rejected	Under Consideration
Technology Advancement	11	1	4	6
Program Totals	11	1	4	6
Technology Evaluation	37	26	6	5
Technology Adoption	68	56	8	4
Technology Dissemination	205	98	87	10
Program Totals	310	180	101	19
Group Storage & Handling	1	1	0	0
Farm Storage & Handling	480	335	9	136
Market Organization	5	4	1	0
Program Totals	486	340	10	136
Administration	1	1	0	0
Farm Planning	1	0	1	0
Human Resource Development	15	8	0	7
Program Totals	17	9	1	7
ALFI TOTALS	824	530	116	168

	Project Value Approved	Initiative Approved	Initiative Paid	Operations Paid
Technology Advancement	334,310	334,310	0	0
Program Totals	334,310	334,310	0	0
Technology Evaluation	275,524	219,069	5,640	1
Technology Adoption	446,023	143,791	14,092	15
Technology Dissemination	903,781	220,817	17,220	16
Program Totals	1,625,328	583,677	36,952	32
Group Storage & Handling	150,000	150,000	0	0
On-Farm Storage and Handling	6,016,477	2,018,786	293,978	109
Market Organization	42,509	38,186	0	0
Program Totals	6,208,986	2,206,972	293,978	109
Administration	175,000	175,000	N/A	N/A
Farm Planning	0	0	0	0
Human Resource Development	78,273	68,073	1,510	1
Program Totals	253,273	243,073	1,510	1
ALFI TOTALS	8,421,897	3,368,032	332,440	142

Livestock Section

The Livestock Section was involved with all aspects of the livestock industry in 1987. The major emphasis continued to be the upgrading of productivity and efficiency of Prince Edward Island producers. Major activities included:

- increased activity in the Swine Incentive Program particularly in the production recording portion of the program; however, there was reduced activity in the advance portion;
- providing Dairy Herd Analyses Service (D.H.A.S.) to interested dairy farmers;
- providing Record of Performance (R.O.P.) services for beef, sheep and swine to assist in selecting breeding stock. Decentralization of processing ROP records has proceeded slower than expected. The beef program is running smoothly; the swine program had major problems, and was not operational by year-end and the sheep program is not yet complete.
- continuous efforts to improve milking systems and to control mastitis in dairy herds;
- increased emphasis to encourage participation in herd health and production recording programs for beef, swine and dairy;
- providing a ration formulation service for all classes of livestock;
- continuing forage quality information program;
- providing disease testing services for poultry and fur bearing animals,
- providing extension programs such as courses, newsletters and information meetings for all livestock commodities,
- working with APHIN on the production and health information network.

Dairy

The dairy industry as a whole was more stable in 1987 with only the number of cream producers continuing to decline as of December:

	'84	'85	'86	'87
Industrial producers	478	443	402	371
Fluid Producers	139	156	170	183
Cream Producers	259	233	210	195

Prince Edward Island producers utilized 101.4 per cent of the 2,892,000 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for milk and 94.6 per cent of the 269,000 kgs. M.S.Q. allotted for cream for an average utilization of 100.9 per cent for the 1986/87 dairy year ending July 31, 1987.

D.H.A.S.

The Dairy Herd Analysis Service provides a herd management and milk recording system for dairy producers. This service is provided by a staff of six supervisors under the direction of the Dairy Production Specialist.

The milk and feed samples are analysed in the Department's laboratories. The data processing is done by D.H.A.S. at Macdonald College and serviced by a terminal in Moncton.

In December 1987, there were 167 herds enrolled in D.H.A.S. Of these, 68 herds were on the official option. Twelve new herds were enrolled in 1987 while 19 left the program. There is a limited waiting list for the official portion of the program.

D.H.A.S. staff continues to promote the National Identification Program for dairy cattle. In 1987, 410 new animals were enrolled.

Animal Breeding Program

The A.I. program in Prince Edward Island is administered by the P.E.I. Artificial Breeders Association whose membership includes cattle breeders using the service. The Department of Agriculture participates by liaison with management and by providing an annual operating grant. First service breedings for 1987 decreased by approximately 1000 to 16,200. This represents the lowest number of breedings for several years. The lower numbers are attributed to decline in numbers of dairy cows, low economic returns in farming and limited availability of quota.

Importation of Dairy Breeding Stock

The department assisted with the importation of 31 head of dairy female breeding stock on eight farms. This policy was discontinued in April of 1987.

Extension Programs

The Livestock Section dairy extension efforts are in three areas:

1. Programs to reduce sub-clinical mastitis and improve milking procedures and equipment use:
   a. Farm calls totaled 127:
      - 97 milking equipment and procedures
      - 3 stray voltage,
      - 3 milker and barn design,
      - 8 received training on separators and other equipment,
      - 11 other;
   b. 24 meetings with equipment dealers and representatives: also met with veterinary clinics and extension staff;
   c. quarterly somatic cell count reports and comparisons to veterinary clinics and District Agricultural offices;
   d. awards and recognition to producers with low somatic cell counts;
   e. a milking equipment survey on all dairy farms was completed with the help of a summer student. Data was analyzed for relationships to somatic cell counts;
   f. six CornerPost articles and two radio shows were completed;
   g. the udder health technologist spoke and participated in seven meetings and tours with 127 farmers.
2. Programs to promote breeding stock and selection and proper use of sires:
   a. assistance with purebred sales (6);
   b. assistance on sire selection committees (3);
   c. assistance with exhibitions (7);
   d. assistance to breed associations with meetings, clinics;
   e. news releases on production records, A.I. bulls, other topics;
   f. information meetings on reproductive performance and sire selection.
3. Feed testing and ration formulation:
   a. direct service to individual farms;
   b. nutrition workshops.

Beef

The year 1987 was the best year in the eighties so far for the beef industry. The feedlots recorded good profits due to relatively low calf prices in the fall of 1986, low grain prices and relatively good market prices.

Cattle slaughter at federally inspected plants was decreased by 4.8 per cent to 27,800 head of P.E.I. origin as of December 28, 1987. There were 7,852 cattle slaughtered in provinically inspected slaughter houses, which is a decrease of 7.8 per cent head.

Beef R.O.P.

In the 1986/87 testing year, there were 81 herds on R.O.P. with 1135 animals starting test and 1100 completing test.

There is still a strong demand to test bulls at the Maritime Bull Test Station. Eighteen Island producers are testing 42 bulls during the 1987/88 test. The test station is filled to capacity, even though it expanded in 1985.

The station sale again has proven popular with commercial cattlemen from the Maritimes and Quebec. The April sale had an average price of $1,569 on 70 bulls compared to last year's average of $1,568 on 71 bulls.

Policies

The Bull Bonus Program is offered by the department to encourage the use of superior herd sires. It paid a total assistance of $44,400 on 102 bulls. Under the beef female importation policy nine animals were imported on four farms. This policy was discontinued in April.

Cow-Calf Development Program

This is the third year for the Cow-Calf Development Program, with its chief objective being to improve the quality of beef calves. There were 248 producers enrolled in 1987. These producers are testing calves from 5100 cows. To date about 4000 calves have been weighed. The average 200-day adjusted weaning weight has increased by 19 lbs per calf.

- Weighing services were provided by the department and two part-time staff were hired to assist in the weighing and entry of data. Computer summaries of each farm were prepared and returned to the producer. The summaries included adjusted weaning weight, identified top producing cows, averages for male and female calves and the herd, a listing of heifers to select from for replacements and comparison to 1985 and 1986 P.E.I. averages.

The Cow-Calf Development Program was modified during the year. The pregnancy checking option was discontinued due to lack of participation. The preconditioning option was enhanced with some modifications to the guidelines and increasing the assistance to $10 per calf.

Extension Activities

Other extension activities included cow-calf seminars and feedlot school, assistance to the Cattlemen's Association with pasture evaluation projects, the Easter Beef Show and Sale, a bimonthly newsletter, CornerPost articles, radio programs and a tour to the feeder sale in Truro, N.S. The section also assisted with exhibitions by providing clerking and/or judging for various classes.

Sheep

The sheep industry has stabilized with relatively firm prices and good local demand for Island lamb. There is still a market for Island purebred breeding stock outside the region.

Marketing

The majority of Island lambs in 1987 were sold through the weekly auction sales in Truro, N.S. The P.E.I. Lamb Co-op is the other major purchaser of lamb in the province. They purchase lambs from Co-op members and market them directly to local stores. There were 969 lambs slaughtered at provincially inspected facilities in 1987 which is a decrease of 105 from last year. Other sales are direct farmgate and through N.B. and N.S. buyers.

R.O.P.

There were 445 lambs from 15 flocks tested under the sheep R.O.P. program in 1987.

Policies

The Ewe Retention Policy was discontinued and 19 rams were bonused under the Ram Bonus Policy. Extension activities during the year included a sheep newsletter, assistance with the breeding stock sale, the freezer lamb directory and sheep information sessions.

Swine

The section's thrust continues to be increased activity in the Swine Incentive Program with emphasis on increased productivity. The objective is still to increase the competitive position of Island producers over the next few years.

Hog slaughter of P.E.I. origin was up by over 10 per cent from 1986, basically because of improved market prices and relatively cheaper feed costs.

R.O.P., Boar and Gilt Bonus Policy

There are 13 conventional and nine minimal disease breeders participating in the R.O.P. program with all of them selling breeding stock. Eight other farms probed gilts for selection of breeding herd replacements.

The Animal Industry Branch supplied a technician to probe pigs, while the Livestock Section technician got involved in providing slaughter checks. Slaughter checks were done on 1,214 pigs for 13 minimal disease breeders and 1,014 pigs for 40 other producers.

Minimal Disease Stock

	Qualified	Disqualified
Boars tested	349	144
Boars sold	104	
Gilts tested	1686	475
Gilts sold	576	

Conventional Stock

Boars tested	442	87
Boars sold	142	
Gilts tested	586	82
Gilts sold	110	

Four breeders tested 53 boars at the Nappan test station.

Swine Incentive Program

	1985	1986	1987
Number of applicants (total)	340	450	495
Market hog base	137,964	145,254	145,479
Weaner base	106,094	124,677	126,215
Advances			
Applications (total)	49	71	92
Predicted feederhog increase	21,666	34,238	44,985
Predicted weaner increase	18,500	21,991	27,642
Amounts paid each year	$	$	
Direct increased production	59,560	459,761	537,689
Support on hogs marketed	459,131	983,768	694,146
Advances paid	323,929	419,096	228,497
Minimal disease assistance	960	17,040	14,730
Management incentive	0	19,487	27,517
Advances approved, but not yet claimed		311,228	204,654

Results for the first 30 months of the program show that annual production is now up to 180,000 market hogs per year and shipments to Garden Province Meats are close to a break even point. The highest week was over 4,000 head marketed compared to well below 3,000 in late 1985.

Swine Productivity Program

During 1987 there were 31 active participants in this program. They represented a total of 1,958 sows or about 15 per cent of the total population. The average production figures within the program were:

Pigs born alive per litter	10.3
Per cent of pigs born dead	5.6
Pigs weaned per litter	9.0
Per cent weaned	87.1
Litters per sow per year	2.2
Pigs weaned per sow per year	19.5

Extension Activities

Because of continued emphasis on swine production, significant extension activity took place during 1987 including the following:

- workshops and tours re the hog grading system (25)
- three information meetings on production records (10)
- production and health management sessions (7)
- releases for CornerPost, the media and Swine Newsletter
- extension staff updating
- assistance to the Swine Breeders Assoc.; the Multiplier Breeders Assoc. and Quality Swine Inc.
- assistance to exhibitions in swine shows
- presentations at the N.B. swine producer meetings
- three presentations to veterinary students
- R.O.P. biweekly boar and gilt summaries
- marketing fact sheet
- implementing an updated sow productivity record system.

Poultry

Egg Production

P.E.I. had 30 registered egg producers representing 120,000 layers. This a reduction of one producer. Our remaining egg quota of 24,000 layers is divided among smaller production units of less than 300 birds each. Egg production per hen is unchanged at 22 dozen marketable eggs per year.

The Board purchased approximately 55,000 - 15 dozen boxes as surplus eggs which were sold to the breaking industry in Quebec. This is up slightly from last year.

Our egg industry is now self-sufficient in producing replacement poulets at a rate of 70,000 poulets per year. All replacement poulets are sample blood tested and vaccinated during the growing season. A total of 430 samples were taken and sent to NSAC for analysis.

There were no serious disease problems diagnosed in the province this year.

Broiler and Roaster Production

Approximately 360,000 broilers were raised on the Island in 1987 which is a 55 per cent decrease. This was due to the closing of Island Poultry Ltd., previously known as Kinlock Farm. Three new broiler facilities have been built in 1987 with a combined quota of 975,000 kg: one of which was established with a quota of 600,000 kg. All broilers are processed outside of the province.

Turkey Production

Turkey production has been increasing at about 10 per cent annually with an estimated 50,000 poults purchased by Island farmers. All are marketed locally, mainly at Thanksgiving and Christmas. This was the first year that production met demand, resulting in reduced prices.

Waterfowl Production

Waterfowl production has increased over the last number of years and is currently estimated at 10,000 geese and 5,000 ducks. All are marketed for the holiday market.

Other Activities

The P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board has continued to service the egg industry, while the P.E.I. Marketing Council administers the activities of the P.E.I. Chicken Marketing Board.

There were 280 birds examined at the pathology lab, and 650 blood samples were collected. Three commercial hatchery supply flocks and 22 bird fanciers flocks were blood tested and vaccinated for a total of 8,500 birds.

Eight poultry shows were held on the Island with approximately 1,000 birds judged during the summer. Two exhibitors sent birds to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto with very good results.

The P.E.I. Game Bird Association is active in promoting various game bird species.

The egg promotion committee met four times, the egg quality committee met four times and the poultry specialist participated in six Egg Board meetings and 10 producer meetings.

Waddell's processing plant handles a large volume for the local market in roasters, turkeys and waterfowl and is essential for this type of production. A new processing plant was opened in Alberton in the fall. Also a pheasant and quail hatchery and growing facility was established in 1987 and about 5,000 pheasants and 4,000 quail were hatched. A private shooting preserve was established.

Nutrition

In 1987, 4459 feed samples were processed through the P.E.I. Feed Testing Laboratory. The results from these analyses were used either for ration balancing or ration evaluation.

Recommendations for ration preparation and proper feeding rates continued to be required on a daily basis. Hull-less oats and milk by-products commanded a great deal of attention as opportunity feeds for livestock production. Additional areas of interest in nutrition over the past year included:

1. Quality control practices in relation to on-farm feed production;
2. Relative dollar value of various feed grains available for use in livestock feeds;
3. The use of fish meal as a source of bypass protein in rations for growing beef animals;
4. The use of cull potato chips in swine and beef rations;
5. A case of oxidized milk was detected on an Island dairy farm;
6. A survey of water quality on swine farms was conducted. Results indicated that bacterial and nitrate contamination of drinking water should be monitored on a regular basis;
7. An investigation into the use of hay preservatives on Island farms was initiated.

This was the fifth year for the Forage Quality Program. Each week during the growing season a report was issued on the quality of forage as it grew in the field to assist farmers in their harvesting decisions.

Educational activities this year dealt with a variety of subjects as listed below:

1. Four mill calibration workshops - attendance 36
2. Six cream producer meetings (Getting the most out of Your Bin of Oats) - Attendance 42.
3. Dairy production course (Ration Balancing) - attendance 20.
4. O'Leary Alfalfa Day (Forage quality & feeding value) - 20
5. Soil & Crop annual meeting (Relative value of feed grains) - 180
6. Soybean Day (Feeding full-fat soybeans to dairy and swine) - 18.
7. Cardigan Feed meeting (Feeds and Feeding for beef) - 28.

More than 100 dairy farmers took the opportunity to attend a series of nutrition information sessions presented by Dr. Elliot Block, Ruminant Nutritionist, Macdonald College. Dairy producers had the opportunity to tour dairy operations and discuss management practices with their counterparts on the Island and in N.S. and N.B. in a series of three tours organized by the Livestock Section.

Fur

Ranch furs marketed for the 1986-87 season increased 38.9 per cent and 37.5 per cent for mink and fox respectively over the previous season.

Ranched Fur Production

	84/85	85/86	86/87
Fox	11,162	12,790	17,590
Mink	8,762	10,553	14,656

Extension activities included participating at shows, newsletters and working with the P.E.I. Fur Breeders Association, as well as with individual ranchers. The department also provided assistance to train a few ranchers in artificial insemination of foxes. Assistance for testing of mink for Aleutian disease is a service provided to the ranchers.

Miscellaneous

The Livestock Section provided assistance to 15 different breed associations. Assistance was also provided to 29 breeders exhibiting livestock at the Maritime exhibitions and to 15 breeders showing at the Royal Winter Fair.

The department paid a grant towards 51 foals under the Draft Horse Improvement Policy.

Extension activities included sponsoring information meetings for horse associations, plus supplying information on a request basis.

Computerization

The section continues to rely more and more on computers for processing production data and implementing programs. Examples are the Swine Incentive Program, the Swine Productivity Program, the Weaning Weight Program, the Cow-Calf Development Program, the Ration Balancing Program, the Somatic Cell Count Program, billing for the Community Pasture Program and various word processing functions. Also the section is processing the R.O.P. data for beef, swine and sheep, although decentralization on this is not yet complete.

Community Pastures

The community pasture program was changed during 1987 so patrons could accept more responsibility in operating the pastures. The first step was taken by allowing the Evangeline Community pasture patrons to accept full responsibility for operating the Wellington pasture using a $7,500 grant from the department.

	1985	1986	1987
Head of Hillsborough	185	101	127
Kelly's Cross	784	751	654
Wellington	803	500	489
Ellerslie	1,049	888	814
Lauretta	542	474	301
Total	3,363	2,740	1,896

The four major pastures have all gone to using insecticide tags for fly control. The cost of these extra services are completely recovered from the producer. Performance on the pastures was good in 1987 despite a very dry summer.

Rural Development

The Rural Development Section is responsible for:

1. the development of farm management information and services in the area of farm planning, credit and finance, estate planning, taxation and other associated topics for farmers and extension staff;
2. provision of opportunities for skill development by farm families through training events such as courses, workshops, tours, and conferences;
3. leadership training and skill development for rural youth through the 4-H program;
4. financial assistance programs for students enrolled in vocational, technical and degree programs in agricultural schools and colleges.

These activities and programs are designed to aid farm families in the economic development of their farms and to assist in making rural Prince Edward Island a better place in which to live and work.

Training

Policies 1 & 2:

These policies are designed to encourage and assist Islanders to obtain training in technical and professional agriculture and to ensure a continuing supply of trained people for the agricultural industry. Under Policy 1, NSAC receives reimbursement for the costs of providing technical training to Island students. Those students who attend institutions other than NSAC may receive reimbursement of tuition plus the equivalent of a round-trip rail fare per academic year.

Islanders may also be assisted through Policy 1 in taking approved correspondence courses related to agricultural production and marketing. Those who are enrolled in the Maritime Farm Certificate Program and who are not eligible for assistance through the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission may also obtain assistance through Policy 1.

Following are the numbers assisted in 1987 by Policy 1: (1986 in brackets)

NSAC students	26	(25)
Olds College	0	(1)
Correspondence Course students	1	(1)
Maritime Farm Certificate Program	3	(3)
TOTAL	30	(30)

Policy 2 assisted those Islanders engaged in studies leading to a Bachelors degree in Agriculture, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or Bachelor of Agricultural Education. This policy was discontinued on April 1, 1987.

The P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, the National Farmers' Union, the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization, and the Women in Support of Agriculture received funding for research and educational projects carried out in 1986.

The Federation of Agriculture received funding for a Farm Safety Project which they conducted during 1986-1987. They also received assistance on a number of educational and research projects.

The following National Farmers' Union projects were approved for funding:

- Soil Conservation Phase II;
- Education Officer Services;
- Preparation for Driscoll Potato Inquiry;
- Workshop for Women Members;
- Activist Training Workshops;
- Potato Marketing Plebiscite.

The following Junior Farmers' Organization projects were approved for funding:

*Charlottetown Group

- Computer Workshop;
- Conference and Annual Meeting;
- Atlantic Fair Tour;
- Atlantic Farm Machinery Show *West Prince Group
- Farm Machinery Show;
- AVC, Kill & Chill Plant, & Research Station Tour;
- NSAC-Atlantic Winter Fair Tour;
- Annual Meeting.

The following Women in Support of Agriculture projects were approved for funding:

*Charlottetown Branch

- Fall Conference;
- School Bus Tour;
- Agricultural Tour. *Central Branch
- Urban Farm Women Tour;
- Out of Province Conference;
- School Bus Tour;
- Fall Conference;
- Consumer Awareness.

*West Prince Branch

- Leadership Development Course;
- Promotion;
- Out of Province Agricultural Tours;
- Spring Conference;
- Educational Programs. *Provincial WSA
- Agricultural Outlook Conference;
- Annual Meeting;
- Training Workshops.

Beginning in the 1987-1988 fiscal year, the administration of this policy was changed in two important ways:

1. the administration of the Farm Safety Project was assumed by the Rural Development Section;
2. the farm organizations were given their share(based on 1986-1987) of the budget in advance. It is theirs to administer and to report on their projects after the fact.

Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Committee and Budget

The Agricultural Employment Committee is funded jointly by the Government of Canada (CEIC) and the Province of Prince Edward Island (PEIDA), and the budget is administrated by the Training Coordinator. A major initiative in 1987 was the commissioning of a study on the training needs of farmers and farm workers in PEI.

FarmCrew

The Agri-Crew program was replaced with Farmcrew in 1987. Like Agri-Crew, a Farmcrew is a group of four students available to work for farm families for up to 5-days at rock-picking, fencing, painting, brush-clearing, or other work for which a farmer would not normally hire labor.

The Prince Edward Island Government hired 16 students under Farmcrew as part of its Student Employment Creation Program for the summer months of 1987. The Farm Labor Pools in Charlottetown and Summerside coordinated the program this year.

Resource Centres

The Rural Development Section continued to staff the Farm Center Resource Center during 1987.

The Farm Center Resource Center continued to be used extensively. Films, slide sets, equipment and books were loaned each day to home economics and agriculture teachers, to Departmental staff, farm organizations, and individuals. The Farm Safety Coordinator used the slide sets and films a great deal.

Audio-visual equipment is being used mainly by Departmental staff, members of commodity boards, and farm organizations.

This section also continued to be responsible for the ordering of materials for all five Resource Centers. This included books, audio-visual materials and periodicals.

Occupational Health and Safety

A considerable amount of time and effort was expended this year in assisting the Occupational Health & Safety Division and the Occupational Health & Safety Council establish a dialogue with farmers about the Act and Regulations. In all, two hour meetings were held with 12 farm and rural organizations and staff of the Division, and five public meetings were held by the Council.

Regular Training Budget

District Tours

A number of commodity specific district courses and tours within the province were held for farmers, organized by District staff and others, and financed through the Rural Development Section.

Farm Welding Courses

Following are the statistics for 1987:

Farm Welding

District	Trainees
Souris	14
Montague	14
Summerside	1

Farm Computer Courses

There were two farm computer courses held during 1987, one in West Prince and one in Charlottetown.

Resource People for Training Programs

The Rural Development Section funded the costs of out-of-province resource people for various Information Days and Conferences including:

- WLM Consultants;
- Thomas B. Harding;
- Garth Coffin;
- T.K. Warley;
- Edwin Locbhart;
- Stuart Hill and Psychwell Associates for the Provincial Marketing Conference;
- Ray Carmichael, for the Soil and Crop Annual Meeting;
- Elspeth MacLean-Wile, Stuart Hill and Thomas B. Harding, for the Organic Gardening Sessions;
- Dr. Terry Church and T. Tennessen for the Beef Feedlot School;
- N.L.Nickerson, for the Raspberry Growers Annual Meeting;
- Dr. Elliot Block, for the Advanced dairy Nutrition sessions;
- Bart Hall-Beyer, for the Tree Fruit Information Sessions & Demonstrations;
- Psychwell Associates, for a Stress Management Workshop;
- W. Sanab and A Hellyer, for Vegetable Day;
- Dave Whittington, for a Cow-Calf Seminar;
- Lily Walker, for Farm Business for Farm Women;
- Guy Boivin, for a session on Integrated Pest Management;
- Thomas B. Harding, for Ecological Agriculture sessions;
- Will Irvine, for a Simmental Field Day;
- Diane Heikel, for a Queen Bee Rearing session;
- Dr. Harvey Volding, for a Soybean Tour and Meeting.

Out of Province Conferences:

Section funded part of the cost of sending farmers to various conferences, courses and meetings out of the province in 1987. These persons were funded for educational purposes: either for individual training or for information to be brought back to the industry. These included:

- N.S. Vegetable & Potato Producers Assoc. Annual Meeting & Technical Update (6 producers);
- N.B. Organic Crop Improvement Association, Woodstock;
- N.S. Pork Conference, Truro, N.S.
- Strawberry Growers' Annual Meeting, (3 producers);
- Farm Business Conference, Halifax, (9 producers);
- Horticultural Council of Canada Annual Meeting, Ottawa, (1 producer);
- Ontario Vegetable Growers' Marketing Board Meeting, Toronto, (8 producers);
- Quackgrass Workshop, (1 producer);
- White Bean seminar, Wicklow, (1 producer);
- North America Strawberry Growers' Association Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tenn., (2 producers);
- Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting, (2 producers);
- Dairy Goat Judging Course, Guelph, Ontario, (1 producer);
- Cole Crop Short Course, NSAC, Truro, N.S., (6 producers);
- Canadian Seed Growers' Association Annual Meeting, Saskatoon, (1 producer);
- N.B. Pork Fest., Fredericton, (1 producer);
- Third National Farm Women's Conference, Saskatoon, (9 representatives).

Out of Province Tours:

Island farmers are assisted so that they can participate in out of province educational tours. During 1987 these included:

- Charlottetown District Dairy Tour to N.S. and N.B.;
- Raspberry Tour to N.S., June 5 & 6, (7 producers);
- Cole Crop Tour to Annapolis Valley, (6 producers);
- Vegetable Growers' Tour to Annapolis Valley; (4 producers);
- N.S. Greenhouse Growers' Fall Meeting & Tour, Truro (2 producers);
- Beef Producers' Tour to Sale in Truro;
  Small Farms Cream Producers' Tour to N.S.;
- PEI Hunter Breeder Field Trip to Ontario, (6 horse persons);
- Raspberry Growers' Tour to Scotland, (1 producer).

Other Tours:

Other farmer tours within PEI in 1987 included:

- Montague Dairy Tour;
- Charlottetown Dairy Tour;
- Soil & Crop Summer Tours;
- Maritime Beekeepers' Tour;
- Fur Breeders' Tour.

The Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Agreement

The Prince Edward Island Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Committee held six meetings.

Priorities have been to restructure the Committee, to have the Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Agreement signed by both authorities, and to address each of the responsibilities of the Committee as contained in the Agreement. All the priority items have been accomplished.

Training-Agriculture Short Courses

Courses assisted in 1986-1987 were as follows:

Course Title	PT/FT	Location	Seats
Farm Machinery Modules	PT	Elmsdale	12 for 20 days
Farm Machinery Modules	PT	Uigg	12 for 10 days
Swine Financial Management	PT	Charlottetown	16 for 4 days
Dairy Financial Management	PT	O'Leary	12 for 4 days

Research Project

A local firm was commissioned to complete a study of the training needs of Island farmers and farm workers, and to demonstrate how the Canadian Jobs Strategy could be accessed to provide such training.

Farm Labour Training-Maritime Farm Certificate Program

The MFCP continues at a low level of activity in Prince Edward Island.

During the year the Province contributed toward the training of 3 farm workers.

Dairy Farm Worker was designated as a Skill Shortage on P.E.I. As a result, several dairy workers received training through the Skill Shortages Program. Three of them received the off-farm portion of their training through the MFCP.

With the approval of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College which supervises the MFCP, the Farm Skills Advisory Board has disbanded. Its function will be part of the mandate of the Training Sub-Committee of the Federal/Provincial Agricultural Employment Committee.

Canadian Rural Transition Program

Representatives of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture provide an initial contact for applicants. They also provide technical advice to the Canadian Rural Transition Program Coordinator.

Program statistics are as follows:

Applications received	24
Approvals	15
Withdrawals	2
Pending review committee recommendations	1

A three-member Review Committee, including a representative of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, has been established to review applications where approval is not recommended.

4-H Program

The programs and activities carried out in 4-H are dictated by the following four objectives:

Leadership and Personal Development

"To increase the effectiveness of rural people in group situations by involving them in leadership development programs."

Family Life

"To strengthen the total family unit by developing the individual in skills, family relationships, home management and community involvement."

Agriculture

"To help develop viable farm units through instruction in the skills of management, production and marketing of agricultural products."

Public Relations

"To increase the appreciation for agricultural problems, conditions and programs by carrying out a public relations program for consumers, agri-business, legislators, clientele and future clientele."

Leadership and Personal Development

Under the objective of leadership and personal development, the programs are aimed at the development of leadership and personal abilities of both 4-H leaders and members.

Sending 4-H members on award trip programs has been a tradition for the past 51 years. The majority of National and International Programs are sponsored and coordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. 4-H members were involved in award trip programs at either the Atlantic, National or International level during 1987.

Royal Bank Interprovincial Exchange is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada and coordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. Five Prince Edward Island 4-H members were chosen to travel to five other Canadian provinces. These members were Linda Moase, Paula MacFadyen, Lisa Simmons, Gloria Whalen and Alice Wolters. 1987 marked the 25th Anniversary of this travel program.

Provincial 4-H Citizenship Seminar
The six delegates were as follows:

Susan Dixon	North River
Lorna Haslam	Springfield
Joanne MacKinley	North River
April Thompson	Brooklyn-Heatherdale
Verna Lynne Weeks	Pleasant Valley
Kelly Dawn Williams	Elmsdale

Sylvia Matheson, a 4-H leader in the Wheatley River 4-H Club, accompanied the Island delegation to this seminar. The theme of this year's Citizenship Seminar was, "Young Canadians - Our Nation's Future".

Washington Conference
The Canadian 4-H Council sponsors one 4-H member from each province. Prince Edward Island's representative was Barbara Jean Campbell of the Cherrycliffe 4-H Club.

National 4-H Careers Conference
The Conference Program, held in Winnipeg, focused on career counselling.The two Island delegates to this conference were Janelle Drummond of Freetown and Jane MacLaurin of Lot 16.

National 4-H Conference
Sid Watts, a leader in the Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club, attended as the chaperone. The members from Prince Edward Island participating were:

Member	Club
Natalie Burns	Freetown
Wendy Duffy	Village Green
Andrew MacKenzie	Millview-Vernon River
Tony MacPhee	Seaside
Rhonda McCabe	Belfast
Vanessa Palmer	High Hopes
Lori Weeks	Pleasant Valley
Elizabeth Younker	Winsloe-Brackley

Danforth Leadership Camp - is a leadership camping program in Michigan, U.S.A. Attending were Bonnie Jean McCabe of the Belfast 4-H Club and Mark Stevenson of the Winsloe-Brackley 4-H Club.

Canadian National Exhibition Scholarship was awarded to Bonnie Jean McCabe of the Belfast 4-H Club.

Shell 4-H United Kingdom Exchange
Little Pond 4-H Club participated in this prestigious program sponsored by Shell Canada Ltd.

Atlantic 4-H Ambassadors' Conference
This is a new initiative for the Atlantic 4-H Committee. The objective of this conference was to provide the participants with the opportunity to learn how to be a 4-H Ambassador. The main sponsor of this program was CN Atlantic. The five Island delegates were:

Jennifer MacDonald	Tri Com 4-H Club
Scott MacIntosh	North River 4-H Club
Terry MacIsaac	Souris West 4-H Club
Kelly Dawn Williams	Elmsdale 4-H Club
Sally Wood	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert 4-H Club

Atlantic 4-H Conference - "For The Love Of Teens" was the theme of the '87 Conference held in Moncton, New Brunswick.

The Atlantic level of the Public Speaking and Demonstration Competitions were held at this Conference. Our five competitors were:

Member	Club	Category
Barbara Jean Campbell	Cherrycliffe	Sr. Public Speaking
Jennifer Craig	North River	Jr. Public Speaking
Maria Gallant	Cavendish	Single Demonstration
Justin & Jeffrey MacLeod	Uigg-Kinross	Team Demonstration

Note: Justin and Jeffrey MacLeod placed first in Atlantic Canada in the Team Demonstration Category.

The chaperones for the Conference were Heather Dixon, North River 4-H Club Leader and Kay Wall, New Annan 4-H Club Leader.

The delegates attending the Atlantic 4-H Conference were:

Shelly Callaghan	West Prince District
Shane Crockett	West Prince District
Pam Oliver	West Prince District
Whitney Williams	West Prince District
Colleen Arsenault	Summerside District
Karen Johnstone	Summerside District
Ellen Larsen	Summerside District
Christine MacDonald	Summerside District
Jennifer Craig	Charlottetown District
Kirk Dalziel	Charlottetown District
Maria Gallant	Charlottetown District
Chris Lund	Charlottetown District
Tim MacEwen	Charlottetown District
Faye Murphy	Charlottetown District
Janet Doyle	Montague District
Jamie Gill	Montague District
Deanne MacGuigan	Montague District
Angela Matheson	Montague District
Denise Campbell	Souris District
St. Clair MacAulay	Souris District

Petro Canada 4-H Youth Leadership Award - Leesa MacLeod of the Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club received the $1,000 scholarship.

Junior Farmer Conference and Exchange - One Island Junior Farmer member, Scott Drake of Vernon, was selected to attend this conference.

Leader Travel Opportunities - The year 1987 also had educational opportunities for 4-H leaders.

Western 4-H Leaders' Forum - Loma MacPhee from the Seaside 4-H Club and Marie Sullivan from the Cherrycliffe 4-H Club participated in the Western Leaders' Forum in Battle Lake, Alberta.

National 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference - The eighth annual Leaders' Conference was held in Toronto from November 18-22, 1987.

The delegates from Prince Edward Island consisted of the following leaders:

Shirley Williams	Elmsdale 4-H Club
Corinne Bernard	Evangeline 4-H Club
Carol Weeks	Pleasant Valley 4-H Club
Susan MacKinnon	Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Anne Cheverie	East End Circle 4-H Club

Senior Members' Conference
The focus of this Conference was on the Intergenerational Program. Fifty Senior 4-H members were involved in a program to integrate 4-H'ers with seniors. The members planned programs and projects for their clubs and councils to hold.

Volunteer Middle Management
The basis of the Volunteer Middle Management or Key Leader Program is that volunteers may want to increase their administrative responsibilities and assume helping and educational roles for other adult volunteer leaders. The result would be more volunteers in positions with additional responsibilities.

Provincial Executive Workshop
The Provincial 4-H Office organized a Provincial 4-H Executive Workshop for 130 executives of the 4-H clubs.

Soil Conservation Poster Competition
A poster competition gained the interest of 4-H members and leaders from across the province. The theme of the contest was "Soil Conservation - It's Everybody's Business".

Provincial 4-H Camp
This year's summer camp was held at Camp Abegweit in Augustine Cove from July 7 to 11. The theme for this year was "Join The H Team", for the participating 4-H members.

Prince Edward Island 4-H Council

The 4-H Council is now in its fourteenth year. The officers for 1987 were as follows:

President - Carol MacLeod, Montague District
Vice President - Eric Phillips, West Prince District
Secretary-Treasurer - Gwyneth Jones, Dept. of Agriculture
Past President - Kay Wall, Summerside District P.E.I.

4-H Trust

In 1987, the P.E.I. 4-H Council formed the P.E.I. 4-H Trust. The Trust is a separate organization with its own appointed trustees and elected officers. The trustees are:

Nancy Orr, President, 4-H Leader
Brian Dingwell, Vice-President, 4-H Leader
Charley Goodwin, Treasurer, The Royal Bank of Canada
Kay Wall, Secretary, 4-H Leader
Peter Dixon, 4-H Leader
Mary Ives, Charlottetown
Gwyneth Jones, Dept. of Agriculture

The Trust was formed to receive donations, bequests, gifts, grants, and legacies. The purpose is to supplement the public support presently available to the 4-H Program.

Prince Edward Island 4-H Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting

The Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting were held in Charlottetown and attracted 50 4-H Leaders.

The Provincial Annual Awards' Banquet saw Evangeline 4-H Club receive the trophy as the Most Improved Club of the Year. The Mermaid-Mt. Herbert 4-H Club received the J.T. Driscoll Memorial Award for the Club Community Project.

The following leaders received certificates for 5, 10, and 15 years of 4-H leadership:

Five Year Certificates

Judy Arsenault	Evangeline 4-H Club
Doris Bernard	French River 4-H Club
Anthony Cannon	Village Green 4-H Club
Sheila Cannon	Village Green 4-H Club
Donna Carr	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club
Betty Duffy	Village Green 4-H Club
Emma Enman	Lot 16 4-H Club
Hilda Johnston	Tri Com 4-H Club
David Larsen	Albany 4-H Club
Elmer Larsen	Albany 4-H Club
Susan MacKinnon	Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Sterling MacNeill	Village Green 4-H Club
Helen Rose	Seaside 4-H Club
Morris Weeks	Cloverleaf 4-H Club
Shirley Williams	Elmsdale 4-H Club
Emma VanDaele	Whim Road 4-H Club
Annie VanWiechen	Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club

Ten Year Certificates

Zena Arsenault	Duvar 4-H Club
Wilma Campbell	Tri Con 4-H Club
Barbara Dalziel	Mermaid-Mt. Herbert 4-H Club
Pauline MacDonald	Bayview-Orwell 4-H Club

15 Year Certificates

Louise Andrews	Wheatley River 4-H Club
Arnold Arsenault	Duvar 4-H Club
Doris MacBeath	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club
John MacKinnon	Uigg-Kinross 4-H Club
Pauline MacPhee	North River 4-H Club
Doris Moase	New Annan 4-H Club

The "Friend Of 4-H Award" for 1987 was presented to Elmer MacDonald, owner of Health Pasteurized Milk Company.

The P.E.I. 4-H Council Annual Meeting was held in the morning before the Provincial Awards' Banquet. Kay Wall, President, chaired approval of the Home Economics, Agricultural Program & Travel and the Finance Committee Reports by the Board of Directors. Annual reports were made by 4-H District Council Presidents.

Program & Travel

Kay Wall was chairperson of the Program & Travel Committee. The Provincial Communications Competitions were held in May and the Provincial Champions were as follows:

Name	Section	Club
Jennifer Craig	Jr. Public Speaking	North River
Renee Murphy	Int. Public Speaking	East End Circle
Barbara Jean Campbell	Sr. Public Speaking	Cherrycliffe
Cheryl MacLaren	Single Demonstration	Seaside
Justin & Jeffrey MacLeod	Double Demonstration	Uigg-Kinross

The Program & Travel Committee is responsible for the Annual $1,000 Provincial Council Scholarship. It is awarded to a deserving 4-H member entering a post-secondary institution. The scholarship was awarded to Angela Sanderson of the North River 4- H Club.

Family Life

The P.E.I. 4-H Council's Home Economics Project Committee assists in determining the direction, need and development of 4-H Home Economics Projects and related activities. The Home Economics Committee sponsored a Microwave Cooking Competition for Senior and Junior representatives from each district to help launch the new 4-H project, "Microwaving With Island Foods".

Agriculture

The Agricultural Committee assists in determining the direction, need and development of 4-H Agricultural projects and activities.

Market Steer Shows

Joanne MacKinley from the North River 4-H Club exhibited the Champion 4-H Steer at the Easter Beef Show. Her steer was later selected as the Grand Champion of the Show. The steer sold for $15.25/pound. Marilee Warren of the Elmsdale 4-H Club exhibited the Champion 4-H Steer in the Prince County Spring Beef Show. She received a price of $2.17/pound for her animal.

Exhibitions

Provincial 4-H Staff directly ran 4-H classes at the Provincial Exhibition and the Rural Youth Fair. Provincial Staff also assisted District Agricultural Staff in running the Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition, Alberton Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival and the Dundas Plowing Match. The Provincial 4-H Agrologist chaired the 4-H Show at the Maritime Winter Fair.

Drop In Centre

The 4-H Drop In Centre was opened for seven days during the Provincial Exhibition with a total of 30 members acting as hosts and hostesses. 4-H entries and materials were displayed in the Centre.

Gardening Project

Again this year, the Gardening Project met with successful completion. More than 30 4-H'ers exhibited their vegetables at the Rural Youth Fair.

Great Outdoors

The Department of Energy and Forestry in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, the 4-H Council of P.E.I. and the Canadian Forestry Service updated and improved the Great Outdoors Manuals (A, B, C, D and the Leaders' Guide).

4-H Day at the Maritime Winter Fair

Prince Edward Island again sent delegates to compete in classes at the Maritime Winter Fair. The following are the results:

Member	Class	Placing
Kurt Duncan	Jr. Angus	1 & Ch. Angus
Jill Stewart	Sr. Angus	1
Paul Godfrey	Jr./Sr. Shorthorn	1, 1 & Ch. S'horn
Mark Docherty	Jr. Shorthorn	2
Linda Docherty	Jr. Shorthorn	3
Susan Dixon	Sr. Shorthorn	2
Jane MacLaurin	Jr. Simmental	1
Karrie Duncan	Jr. Exotic	1 & Ch. Exotic
Tracey Stewart	Jr. Exotic	2
Jamie MacKinley	Sr. Exotic	1
Julie Stewart	Sr. Exotic	3
Karrie Duncan	Jr. Beef Showmanship	1 & Ch. Beef Showmanship
Paul Godfrey	Sr. Beef Showmanship	1
Sherri Dixon	Sr. Beef Showmanship	2
Nena MacDonald	Jr. 1 Holstein	1
Josh Ballem	Jr. 1 Holstein	2
Susan Dickieson	Jr. 1 Holstein	3
Charles Dickieson	Jr. 2 Holstein	1 & Res.
Andrew Dickieson	Sr. Holstein	1 Ch. Holstein
Jamie Wood	Sr. Holstein	2
Penny MacMurdo	Sr. Holstein	3
John Wood	Jr. Ayrshire	1 & Ch. Ayrshire
Melissa Lewis	Jr. Dairy Showmanship	3
Andrew Dickieson	Sr. Dairy Showmanship	2 & Reserve Ch. Dairy Showman
Stacey Wyand	Jr. Dairy Judging	1
Dale Tingley	Jr. Dairy Judging	2
Timothy Dixon	Jr. Dairy Judging	7
Mark Docherty	Jr. Judging	2
Karrie Duncan	Jr. Judging	1
Scott MacIntosh	Int. Dairy Judging	1
Sherri Dixon	Int. Dairy Judging	4
Linda Docherty	Int. Beef Judging	2
Tracey Stewart	Int. Beef Judging	6
Wade Loane	Selected for Maritime Judging Team to attend & judge at the Agribition in Regina.	

Rural Youth Fair

The 37th Annual Rural Youth Fair was held August 28 & 29 at the Provincial Exhibition grounds. The fair was expanded from its traditional day-long format to a day and a half. The program aimed to provide more varied activities and to more fully promote the 4-H organization.

An action-packed program had more than 500 participants in such events as a Talent Show, the Holstein Futurity, a Club Display Competition, a Square Dance, Judging Game, Bake-Off, Displays as well as the regular livestock classes.

'87 Special

Again this year, a special showmanship training class for nine and 10 year old beef and dairy members was held at the Provincial Exhibition. Senior 4-H livestock members and livestock leaders were each assigned two 4-H members with whom to work. Instruction covered the areas of fitting and grooming, sportsmanship and showmanship.

Agribition 1987

A four-member Maritime 4-H Judging Team was selected at the Maritime Winter Fair. This team participated in an International Livestock Judging Seminar held at the Agribition in Regina.

Wade Loane, Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club was the P.E.I. member of the Maritime Team.

Contact Hays Classic

Six Island 4-H'ers participated in the Scotiabank Hays Classic held during the Royal Winter Fair. Island competitors fared well in the Competition. Andrew Dickieson placed 15th in Showmanship over 90 other members. Penny MacMurdo placed 14th in the Holstein Senior Yearling Class of 147 entries and Steven Boswall placed 8th in the Ayrshire Class. The P.E.I. representatives were:

Melissa Lewis	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club
Steven Boswall	Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club
Andrew, Susan & Charles Dickieson	Cavendish 4-H Club
Penny MacMurdo	Freetown 4-H Club

Heather Lewis-Bolger accompanied the group as their chaperone.

United States National 4-H Dairy Conference

Two 4-H members and a chaperone attended the United States Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The selected delegates were Dianne Stewart, Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club, and Jacinta MacDonald, Morell 4-H Club. The chaperone was Georgina MacDonald of Tri Com 4-H Club.

Livestock Judging Clinic

A day-long judging clinic was held on May 16th. Members and leaders attended sessions on five different farms in the Dunstaffnage-Marshfield area. The workshop was well attended with more than 40 members and leaders present.

Potato Project

The P.E.I. Elite Potato Seed Farm donated three different potato varieties to the 4-H'ers enrolled in the project. More than 30 4-H'ers exhibited their potato varieties at the Rural Youth Fair.

4-H Farm Management Project

Eight senior 4-H members completed this very challenging project. In addition to members attending two organized Farm Management Sessions, they were also

required to complete exercises on a fictitious farm. The exercises included Balance Sheets and Income and Cashflow Statements.

New and Revised Projects

New and revised projects produced by the Agriculture and Home Economics Committees and the 4-H Staff:

Revised:

Dairy 2, 5 & 6
Farm Management
Great Outdoors A,B,C,D, & Leaders Guide
Market Steer
Small Engines 1
Potato
Horse & Pony
Macrame Leaders' Guide
Seasonal Decorations Manual & Guide
Ms. Dress-Up (now Fashionably You)

New:

Microwaving With Island Foods
Dairy 7

Other New & Revised Books & Pamphlets:

Seasonal Decorations Resource Manual
Leaders' Information Manual
Exhibition Book
Rural Youth Fair Book
Achievement Day Kits
A.V. Booklet
Public Speaking Book
Public Speaking & Demonstration Video

Public Relations

Media Coverage - (Radio & Newsletters)

There were 52 4-H Radio Programs produced as a regular Saturday Show. These shows are aired on the four local radio stations.

The monthly newsletter (Leaders' Line) was mailed to all 4-H leaders and district 4-H staff from the Provincial 4-H office.

Atlantic 4-H Committee

The Atlantic 4-H Committee is a sub-committee of the Atlantic Provinces Agricultural Sciences Coordinating Committee. Gwyneth Jones was chairperson of this Atlantic Committee for the 1987 year.

The Atlantic Committee was responsible for four programs this year: The Atlantic 4-H Conference, 4-H Day at the Maritime Winter Fair, the 1987 International 4-H Judging Seminar and the new Atlantic 4-H Ambassadors' Conference.

Canadian 4-H Council

The Canadian 4-H Council is a non-profit organization whose primary responsibilities include administering national and international programs for 4-H members, providing a variety of services to 4-H and the provincial agencies that administer 4-H across Canada, and facilitating the exchange of information and ideas about 4-H programs and activities.

Incorporated in 1931, the Council is maintained through the interest and financial support of the ten provincial 4-H administrative agencies, Agriculture Canada and a board representation of business and non-government organizations.

Representing the Department on this Council is Gwyneth Jones. In 1987, Ms. Jones was elected President. As such, she chairs the Executive and Operations Committees plus is ex-officio on all other committees.

In June 1987, P.E.I. hosted the Canadian 4-H Council Annual Meetings. Approximately 60 directors and their spouses attended these meetings.

Assistance with District 4-H Programs

District 4-H Events which 4-H Staff from the Provincial 4-H Office helped organize and/or attend were as follows:

- District 4-H Council Annual Meetings -District Project Workshops
- Various 4-H District Council Meetings
- District Leaders' Banquets

- Approximately 20 4-H Achievement Days
- District Level Public Speaking & Demonstration Nights
- 4-H Programs at Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition Kensington Harvest Festival, Alberton Exhibition, Souris Exhibition, Dundas Plowing Match
- Montague District Council Workshop

New Brunswick/Nova Scotia 4-H Groups

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia sent several groups to tour Prince Edward Island. Prince Edward Island 4-H Staff helped them arrange tours, find accommodations and matched them up with other 4-H clubs.

Small Farms Program

This program offers a specialized on-farm extension service to all small-scale and part-time farmers. It emphasizes economic development opportunities specifically designed for small farm operations, including appropriate information and technology, managment of commodities, record keeping and development of information not available locally. The program also assists groups who wish to cooperate in collective projects and programs.

Staff

There are 13 Agricultural Resource Workers employed in the Small Farms Program, in addition to a Supervisor and a Secretary. During 1986 they offered program services to 484 farm families.

Small Farms Board

The Small Farms Board is made up of 12 small scale and/or part-time farmers who advise the Minister and the Program on Small Farm Policy and direction. During 1987, Morley Pinsent from South Granville was the Chairperson. The Board met nine times during 1987.

Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener Program successfully completed its fourth year in Charlottetown and its second year in Summerside. The program functions through the volunteer time of experienced home gardeners who assist the department with home gardening calls. New volunteers to the program are given a 48 hour training program which is exchanged for 50 hours of volunteer time. In Charlottetown, one volunteer returned for her fourth year with the program, three volunteers returned for their third year with the program, one volunteer returned for her second year with the program and nine new volunteers joined the program. Two volunteers in Summerside volunteered over 80 hours of time and answered 135 calls. The twelve volunteers in Charlottetown volunteered more than 520 hours of time and answered approximately 400 inquiries.

Home Gardener

The Horticultural Worker and a number of the Certified Master Gardeners made numerous media presentations, community group and community school presentations, and were involved in hospital and community fairs.

Courses

The Small Farms Program organized a successful Organic Tree Fruit Production short course and pruning demonstration in late April featuring Bart-Hall Beyer of Scotstown, Quebec. Approximately 20 people attended a pruning demonstration seminar in Tyne Valley and another 15 people attended an evening production seminar and a one-half day pruning demonstration in Charlottetown and North Tryon respectively.

Bart-Hall Beyer was also the resource person at another one day seminar in late April. Approximately 50 people attended the seminar to discuss Organic Soil Fertility Management and Ecological Crop Production Methods.

Approximately 35 vegetable producers attended an evening seminar on organic vegetable production in mid-June. The guest speaker, Tom Harding, discussed non-chemical insect control and marketing vegetable crops.

A one and one-half day program on organic farming was held in early March with quest speakers Tom Harding, Dr. Stuart Hill and David Ling. Topics included were farm diversification, improving soil condition, biological insect control and composting. The program was well received with over 175 farmers in attendance.

Forty-four cream producers attended one of seven workshops held across the Island in January. These workshops featured "Heat Detection" and "Balancing Rations."

Thirty-four farmers attended one of three evening meetings on Income Tax held across the Island in February. These sessions featured an accountant who offered suggestions on preparing farm income tax returns.

In cooperation with the West Prince District Office, West Prince Beef Day was held on February 27. Twenty producers attended the program.

Working With Groups

The Small Farms Program assisted the P.E.I. Organic Growers Association in the associations involvement with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture conference "Competing in the Marketplace." The Association supported two speakers at the Conference, Thomas B. Harding, Pa., and Dr. Stuart Hill, Macdonald College, who addressed the topics of "Marketing Organic Products" and "Benefits and Implications of Alternative Agriculture" respectively.

The Small Farms Program assisted the P.E.I. Organic Growers Association with a manure composting information seminar and demonstration in late August. Approximately 50 producers were in attendance to hear Joseph Smillie, a consultant from Erle, Quebec.

Publications

The Small Farms Program continues to provide material to Cornerpost for the Small Farms Section.

A video tape on "Manure Composting" featuring Joseph Smillie, author of Soul of Soil, was prepared during Mr.Smillies visit to the Island. The video is available from the Small Farms Program and the District Offices.

Video tapes are available on the various seminars and Information Days held on Organic Agriculture in the past year from the Small Farms Program.

Conferences

The Small Farms Program assisted producers to attend the New Brunswick Organic Crop Improvement Association (OCIA) fall meeting and Information Day in November.

Other

A representative of the Small Farms Program attended the Organic Crop Improvement Association International Board of Directors meeting, and the Organic Food Production Association of North America Board of Directors meeting as an invited guest in mid October. The representative also attended the Natural Foods Expo '87 East in Philadelphia.

A representative of the Small Farms Program travelled to Ontario in late April to study organic dairy production on a dairy farm in Tavistock, Ontario.

New England & Eastern Canadian Small Farms Development Council

The Deputy Minister and a planning officer attended the only meeting of the Council in May in Orono, Maine. A short-term personnel exchange between the New England States & Eastern Canadian provinces was approved at that meeting.

Small Farms Program
Statistical Summary - December 1987

No. of farm families served: 484

Ages of farmers:	20-29 yrs.	30-39 yrs.	40-49 yrs.	50 +
	47	108	133	196

Category of farms:	Full-time	Part-time	Hobby
	202	249	28

Size of farms: (acres)	0-9	10-49	50-99	100 +
	45	59	140	237

Commodities on Farms:

Forages	Beef	Grain	Cream	Swine
304	280	259	141	86

Fruit	Forestry	Poultry	Vegetables	Potatoes
82	67	67	64	47

Horses	Sheep	Self-Sufficient	Organic	Milk
46	45	39	30	25

Market Garden	Fur	Waterfowl	Bees	Greenhouse
24	14	12	11	9

Dairy Goats	Aquaculture
8	5

Information Section

The Information Section plans. co-ordinates and produces public information, and is responsible for media relations for the four branches of the department. Staffed by the information director, information officer, and a secretary, this section is responsible for the dissemination of extension information through advertising, daily and weekly farm broadcasts, news and feature releases, printing brochures and publications, and producing the department's monthly agricultural newspaper, CornerPost.

Production Services Used

This section's production services were used extensively during 1987 with most branches publishing several Agri-fact sheets, many conference and information brochures, and other extension material. The section also co-ordinates the purchase and/or publishing of joint Atlantic provinces' publications. Provincial publications such as the department's Annual Report, Seed Potato Growers' Certification List, the Personnel Directory, and similar brochures are produced annually.

Farm News Radio Service Continued

All privately owned radio stations in the province carried department programming which includes Farm Report, Farm Markets, CornerPost, the Farm Show, 4-H Report, Preserving the Harvest, Potato Crop Report and Potato Crop Guide.

Close to 300 daily Farm Reports were aired on stations CFCY,CHTN,CJRW and Q-93. This program is designed to alert the farm community to new technology, extension events and agricultural news.

Potato Crop Guide and Potato Crop Report are two radio programs designed for potato producers. They provide production information prepared in the potato extension program. These programs were aired April - September on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q- 93.

The Farm Show is a 10 minute weekly program issued for air play Sundays on CFCY, CHTN and Saturday on CJRW. This program features farm activities within the five agricultural districts of the province.

The director worked closely with radio stations during the year to ensure that the information programs were meeting the standards of each station, and to ensure that each show was scheduled in the best air-time available to reach the various listening audiences.

The Agricultural Market Report was broadcast Monday - Friday on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and Q-93, and live on CBC Radio as a new initiative in 1987. Close to 800 calls were received by the Zenith toll-free line, which provides the market report to callers 24 hours a day.

Media Work

The section releases a weekly news package to local, regional and national press; prepares agricultural features, co- ordinates the mailing of the Market Report, and assists Island livestock breeders with media coverage of livestock competitions. It also provides assistance to farm organizations wishing to work with the media.

The department's major extension information tool, CornerPost, was changed from the previous magazine format to a newspaper tabloid format, and is now mailed to approximately 7300 Island homes in conjunction with a local farm newspaper.

Photography

Photography services are offered to department staff in support of the department's extension information programs. Approximately 250 photography orders were processed during the year.

Advertising

All advertising for the department is co-ordinated through the section with approximately 350 press ads and 75 broadcast ads processed.

Special Projects

This section is also responsible for special projects. This work includes working with agricultural groups and associations, preparing agricultural brochures, and AV presentations, and special events planning. Section staff work closely with other department branches by planning and publicizing extension/information efforts.

During 1987, the director represented the province on a number of communications related groups, including the Canada Committee of Agricultural Communications and the National Soil Conservation Awareness Committee. The latter group initiated farmer/public surveys to determine the level of conservation awareness; presented a draft communications plan to the First Ministers' Conference as requested; and continued to encourage provincial activities in this area.

In conjunction with Agriculture Canada,(Regional Development), a soil conservation awareness program was prepared for Soil Conservation Week. This program was highlighted by a poster contest for 4-H members and leaders which provided prizes to category winners. All winning posters were displayed publicly during Soil Conservation Week.

Specific information projects were set up for the Marketing and Plant Industry Branches and were designed to meet particular information needs of these programs. Information officers were assigned to carry out the activities planned for each program. This included preparing publications, radio and news releases, scripts, as well as a wide range of extension support activities, and planning assistance.

The director continued to represent the department on a number of communications-related groups.

ERDA and ALFI

The director of the section was active on the Information Sub-Committees for the ERDA and ALFI programs. Information guidelines co-ordinate consistent information release of program material and the committees co-ordinate joint media work pertaining to either agreement.

PORK
STEAK
SOLD
HERE
PORK
STEAK
ON TARGET
with a WINNER!

MARKETING BRANCH

The Marketing Branch offers marketing assistance, expertise and programs to farm organizations, commodity groups, associations, cooperatives and individuals. The Branch's objectives are to tie together production initiatives to market opportunities, identify new markets, provide an analysis of marketing opportunities including outlook and forecasting information, and to provide commodity promotion and educational programs. The Branch also provides information on market organizational options particularly for establishing commodity groups. The Branch provides a planning and statistical analysis service and represents the department on a number of intergovernmental committees, task forces, and working groups where marketing, planning policy and statistical issues are discussed.

The Branch's principal function remains one of providing extension information and marketing services to farm clientele and to the department.

In 1987, the Branch participated in a variety of important agricultural issues. The free trade discussions, the revitalization of the Federal-Provincial Market Development Council, the National Agriculture Strategy, tripartite stabilization, the potato agency discussions and the revitalization of Potatoes Canada are some of the areas where staff spent considerable time and effort.

The Branch put increased emphasis on market communication in 1987. Market education, market organization and market strategy development remain the fundamental cornerstones of the Branch's extension efforts.

The Branch Director continued to serve on, and in several cases to chair regional, national and international forums where trade policy, market development and food marketing issues and policies were formulated.

Activities and accomplishments of the Branch are highlighted in the following reports:

Crops Marketing

Major projects and areas of activity are outlined below.

Potatoes

The Potato industry received better prices for the 1986/87 crop but was faced with a difficult growing season followed by poor prices for their 1987 crop. Again the industry faced difficult times with prices going below the cost of production.

The Federal Government announced stabilization on the 1985 crop in the amount of $3.75 million but also announced increases in inspection fees of 3 cents a cwt. on December 1, 1987, followed by increases of 3 cents per cwt. on April 1, 1988 and each succeeding year until a total fee of 15 cents per cwt. is reached.

The industry received the Driscoll Royal Commission Report on the Potato Industry along with the revoking of the 1956 Temporary Plan re: Potatoes. As the 1956 Temporary Plan re: Potatoes was the legislation authorizing the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board to operate government appointed a three man interim commission to carry on the former Board's activities pending the election of a producer board under the Natural Products Marketing Act.

Potatoes Canada experienced organizational difficulties in 1987 and after a series of meetings a commitment was reached to revitalize and strengthen this important tool for our seed potato export industry. With a renewed commitment by the exporters, the industry and Governments and with the difficulties between provinces resolved we can once again look to Potatoes Canada to lead in efforts to gain export markets.

The Department assisted the Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board in developing a new tablestock display unit. This unit was first used in Anaheim, California at the annual show and seminar of the Produce Marketing Association.

A Grading Seminar was conducted as a pilot project with attendance of 65 graders at five locations. This course was a cooperative effort of the Department of Agriculture with Agriculture Canada, Farm Labour Pool and P.E.I. Development Agency. The objective of this course is to reinforce the awareness of the necessity to maintain an image for high quality tablestock potatoes.

Once more free trade issues were discussed and plans are under way to have a meeting with producers from Maine, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown in 1988 to discuss trade differences.

Efforts were given to development of new, value added, packaging concepts. A visit to PacEx '87, a packaging exhibition, in Toronto presented new ideas and options for packaging and merchandising the Province's leading cash crop.

The Department of Agriculture is cooperating with the Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Commission and Agriculture Canada in conducting a major study of consumer preferences and attitudes for potatoes. This study is being conducted by Coopers & Lybrand with the major markets in Canada and Eastern Seaboard of United States being surveyed.

Forage

The Marketing Branch supported the activities of the Island Hay & Straw Co-operative in the areas of promotion, education, market development and product development.

The Co-operative received assistance in developing a marketing plan which included operation under the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act, a first for a forage marketing group in Canada. A grading system for domestic sales was developed.

The Marketing Branch was involved nationally in the development of a Hay Certification System which will replace the Hay and Straw Inspection Act (1933).

The development of a processed forage product was initiated by the Branch in cooperation with the Food Technology Centre.

Export markets were expanded to include Bermuda and the United Arab Emirates. Opportunities in Japan, Venezuela and Sweden were actively investigated.

Grain

Branch staff have worked closely with the Board of Directors and management of the Grain Elevators Corporation in the planning and marketing programs of the Corporation. Staff assisted in the preparation of a five year "Plan of Action" for the Corporation.

A staff member served on steering committees for three Maritime studies identifying the needs for storage, transportation and stabilization in support of the growth anticipated through the ALFI programs.

Staff participated in meetings of the Atlantic Grain Council where issues of common interest to the Atlantic grain industry are discussed and proper representation prepared.

A staff member worked closely with producers to prepare a program of advance payments for grain under the Advance Payments for Crops Act. This program was offered through the P.E.I. Grain Grower's Co-operative.

Milling Wheat

A staff member served on a Maritime Coordinating Committee for the planning of a coordinated market effort for all milling wheat throughout the Maritime Provinces going to Dover Mills.

Greenhouse Growers

Assistance was provided to the Greenhouse Growers Association in the implementation of a promotion of the greenhouse industry.

Strawberries

Assistance was provided to strawberry producers to improve the marketing of strawberries in Newfoundland. Quality of product reaching the stores was improved.

Cole Crops

The Branch assisted the Cole Crop Producers Co-operative in the planning and with some expenses relating to management and bookkeeping. Most growers experienced good crops. Overall volumes marketed increased sharply this year.

Strawberry Plants

Westech Agriculture was assisted financially and also by staff in the planning for production and marketing of tissue culture strawberry plants to Spain and Florida. Volumes increased from 350,000 plants in 1986 to 1.4 million in 1987.

Cranberries

Staff has worked with Goose River Co-operative and a local food processor to market all of the 1987 crop. The crop was below normal due to the dry season. A potential new market was identified and is being pursued.

Blueberries

A staff member worked with blueberry producers entering a local fresh market for the first time this year. Quality was excellent.

A staff member also participated on the promotion committee for domestic marketing through the Wild Blueberry Association of North America.

Atlantic Livestock Feed Initiative (A.L.F.I.)

Staff of the branch attended many meetings in the planning and negotiating of the A.L.F.I. agreement. Also, staff attended many farm meetings to outline A.L.F.I. programs to producers.

Special Canadian Grains Program

A staff member worked closely with federal personnel and District Staff in ensuring the uptake of the Special Canadian Grains Program among Island grain producers. Over 1,700 persons applied for and received assistance for this program.

Livestock Marketing

Beef

The Branch worked with beef producer groups and beef production staff to assess opportunities for developing cattle and/or beef markets. One area identified was production of more beef calves within the province and increased emphasis on production of calf types and breed crosses desired by the feedlot industry. Producers were given assistance enabling them to gain access to funds, which allowed a group of producers to tour Alberta to look for ideas which if adopted would be instrumental in strengthening the Island cow-calf industry. The Branch also assisted with funding for a modernized carcass display cooler for the Atlantic Winter Fair designed to improve effectiveness of displays and enhance the image of red meats.

Local livestock auction price information was re-categorized and updated in order to provide a more representative picture of market results aligned with animal types, particularly feeder cattle.

Producer groups such as the Cattlemen's Association and various breed groups also received support in their search for markets for beef or live animals, as well as promotion of their respective products.

Pork

The Branch assisted the industry in determining the parameters of a study aimed at assessing potential market opportunities for swine, particularly breeding stock. This project was funded through the Agriculture Canada Market Development Program.

The Multiplier Breeders Association received assistance to enable them to produce a promotional brochure outlining the availability of and merits of their stock. The Branch also assisted with a seminar held in Moncton to familiarize Maritime meat retailers and Hog Board members with the versatility and nutritional value of "pork steaks".

Information was provided to the Canadian Pork Council to assist them in providing an update on support programs offered to hog producers. This information was utilized in responding to the Countervail Duty Investigation.

Time was devoted, in association with weaner and feeder hog organizations, to develop a formula for weaner pig costs of production. This was in response to concerns of weaner producers that the stabilization program represent their interests fairly. This formula has been incorporated into the overall stabilization cost of production formula, and it also serves to reduce fluctuations in base price levels formerly caused by weaner pig market price fluctuations.

The Branch provided assistance with the investigation into inconsistencies with hog indexes at Garden Province Meats. The problem was largely traced to problems with electronic equipment malfunctions on a few occasions and has been corrected with the addition of back-up equipment.

Lamb

The Branch worked with groups such as the Island Lamb Co-op in seeking ways to promote fresh Island lamb to food service and retail businesses.

Tripartite Stabilization

The National Tripartite Stabilization Program is now into its second year for beef and lamb producers in this province. The Feeder Cattle Program came into effect in the third quarter of 1987 and this completes the initiation of programs available to the beef sector.

The number of producers enrolled in the program has remained largely unchanged to this point in time. No stabilization payments have originated from this program as yet but indicators point to payouts for the slaughter cattle sector during 1988.

Involvement in the National Beef Tripartite Stabilization Committee continues with responsibility for policy establishment and decision-making regarding operation and improvement of the program. During the year a consultant was commissioned to make recommendations regarding provisions, penalties, etc. for late entering provinces.

Impact of Government Programs on Red Meat Producers

The study was initiated to identify all federal and provincial programs that impact on the red meat industry and to determine the net financial benefit and costs of these programs to red meat producers in different provinces of Canada.

The draft report of this study has been prepared by Intercambio Ltd. from Guelph, Ontario. Additional information has been requested from the consultant group to verify the benefits to producers quoted in the study.

Dairy

During the dairy year ending in 1987, dairy producers filled 100.9 per cent of the Island's allotment of milk market sharing quota. Industrial milk deliveries totalled 76.1 million litres and farm separated cream production was up slightly to 254,546 kilograms of butterfat. Approximately 14 million litres of milk were marketed in Class I products.

The Cream Producers' Assistance Program was administered, distributing $40,000 to assist farm separated cream producers with transportation costs.

Branch staff had major input into the formulation of regulations under the new Dairy Industry Act, through the Dairy Quality Improvement Committee. Staff also represented the Department at national meetings of the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee.

The Marketing Branch ensured a close liaison with the dairy industry by regular contact with the Milk Marketing Board, processors, other government departments and dairy agencies in neighbouring provinces.

The School Milk Program

The School Milk Program is administered by the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. a non-profit body with members from the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, the P.E.I. Dairy Producers' Association, the P.E.I. Fluid Milk Processors' Association, the P.E.I. Department of Education and the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture is represented on the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. by Lynne Hansen, Promotion Specialist, and Nancy Reddin, Montague District Home Economist.

The total of 1,169,318 school milk servings consumed in the 1986-87 school year is a new record. It is nearly 50 per cent more than the 790,283 servings in the first year of the program, 1980-81.

This school year's sales were 11 per cent greater than the previous year, 1985-86.

Those schools (44 of 69) using the dispenser method of serving school milk continue to have a consistently higher participation rate than those serving school milk in the carton: 31.2 per cent as compared to 22.5 per cent.

The P.E.I. School Milk Foundation was able to maintain the price of milk to the students at 12 cents for a 200 mL serving from a dispenser or 22 cents for a 250 mL carton of white milk (whole or 2 per cent).

Highlights of this year's educational and promotional activities were:

(i) the "Irreplaceable Milk" Contest and

(ii) "School Milk Appreciation Awards".

Because the "Irreplaceable Milk" Scratch'n Win Contest offered in 1985-86 proved to be popular and effective, it was offered again this year in February and March, and expanded to include all grade levels.

Thirty-six schools participated in the contest. Many principals and school staff indicated that milk consumption increased from 200 to 400 per cent during the contest, and that many students buying milk were not regular school milk drinkers.

As in the previous year, Agriculture Canada's Market Development Program offered financial assistance to this project. To recognize the contribution made by key volunteers to the success of the school milk program, the Foundation initiated the "School Milk Appreciation Awards". Recipients including custodians, secretaries, students, parents and cafeteria workers were awarded certificates and engraved pens.

A total of 103 awards were presented in 56 schools in May and June. In many instances the schools made the presentation a "special school milk event" by providing free milk to all students and prizes of pens and pencils on that day.

These awards were very successful in drawing attention to the people who "make school milk work".

Educational and promotional activities (e.g. parents' newsletters, teachers' flyers, educational aids), were also continued this year.

On behalf of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd., Lynne Hansen and Nancy Reddin, the school milk coordinators, administer and monitor the School Milk Program and implement the educational and promotional activities described above. As well, both are Directors of the Foundation and act as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Additional details of the School Milk Program are provided in the Annual Report of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

It is only through the excellent support and cooperation from many groups including principals, teachers, superintendents, parents, "school" milk co-ordinators, dairies and the dairy producers, that the Foundation has been able to make the School Milk Program a continued success.

Farmers' Markets

The Marketing Branch provides technical assistance and limited financial support for the establishment and development of farmers' markets. At present, there are cooperative farmers' markets in Tignish, Bloomfield and Alberton, Summerside, Charlottetown and in Wood Islands, Montague and Souris. The Charlottetown Farmers' Market operates year round while the others are on a seasonal basis. Marketing and promotion education assistance is also offered to the Farmers' Markets. Assistance has included travel and attendance at marketing seminars.

Market Communications Project

In cooperation with the Information Section, the Marketing Branch initiated a communications project in April, 1987. The goal is the development of a coordinated public relations/information component designed to support the Department's marketing objectives and staff. A term information officer was provided to increase the farm community's awareness of the marketing services and programs available from the Department. A second thrust of the marketing communications project is to increase the level of awareness and education in marketing concepts.

The communications project was divided into several areas:

1) audio-visual
2) newsletters and press
3) radio
4) publications and brochures
5) displays
6) training

Committees have been established in the six areas listed above and several projects have been identified and are being carried out.

The Marketing Branch is establishing a photo/slide file for use in slide-tape presentations, news releases, and CornerPost articles. As well, work is progressing on production of a slide/tape presentation on the general topic of "marketing".

The marketing communications project has been very active in the area of news releases and CornerPost articles. The project information officer issues several releases each week that address marketing activities, issues and related subjects. As well, the Marketing Branch's "Focus on Marketing" section of CornerPost has been increased to a monthly publication from every other month. The Island media have received several information kits on such topics as Census Information, Outlook Information and various commodity promotions - all prepared with additional impact and targeting due to the resources provided through the marketing communications project.

Radio's Farm Report on Island radio stations receives regular and frequent topics as part of the agenda of the marketing communications project.

Market Analysis and Statistics

Major highlights from 1987 include the initiation of a regular market analysis program with the CBC; the undertaking of a major market study soon to be released on potato marketing; the release and analysis of the 1986 Agriculture Census; and other regular statistical and analytical activities. The mid-year statistical summary sheet was published again this year, as was the 21st edition of the yearly publication, *Prince Edward Island Agricultural Statistics*. This position also assumes the responsibility for administration of the Limestone Incentive Policy, which this year had an ambitious and busy year assisting over 1400 applicants with over 64,000 tonnes of limestone.

Each year, one major project has been undertaken. This year was no exception with the undertaking of the marketing study into potato markets to help the industry in ascertaining its position amongst competitors. Substantial effort was expended by the summer student and branch staff in preparation and analysis of the data and output. The project is complete and in the final stages of review and presentation.

Computerization of the *Weekly Agricultural Market Report* occurred this year in an effort to streamline the daily and weekly markets collected and compiled by the Branch. The report reaches all the Maritime provinces and is aired on four stations (AM and FM). A new feature was introduced this year with the CBC. A general analysis of the markets is featured in which a conversational commentary between the host and our staff discuss the "how's, whys, what and ifs" of the market.

The Marketing Branch has maintained the code-a-phone system for up-to-date market information on the various major commodities. Response this year has been brisk, signaling another successful year for this service.

The Statistics division has been busy. This year marked the advent of the Envoy electronic message system which provided significant cost savings and rapid response time to statistical requests with Statistics Canada. The system encountered some technical problems recently but hopefully the service can be maintained and improved soon which will allow staff greater input into Statistics Canada numbers. The annual Federal-Provincial Statistics Conference in Ottawa was attended and some significant benefits for the future were realized. The Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference was also attended. Statistics Canada and provincial staff worked co-operatively to produce the final numbers for Outlook. Numerous requests were satisfied for outsiders by the division in addition to requests by various members of the entire Provincial Government.

Planning

The Marketing Branch includes a planning unit of two persons providing strategic and operational planning support to the Department. It also provides analytical, review and evaluation support services as well as program development efforts as required.

The agricultural sub-agreement of the five year Economic and Regional Development Agreement (E.R.D.A.) was signed in June of 1984. This fiscal year 1987/88 marks the second complete year of operation of the sub-agreement.

The interim evaluation of the sub-agreement is completed and the results are now being considered prior to the initiation of the final evaluation slated for 1988. Cost-shared funding for extension support continued under the Agri-food Sub-agreement. Program descriptions and budgets were co-ordinated for eligible projects, and documents necessary for funding were prepared for the Management Committee.

The 1987-91 Atlantic Livestock Feeds Initiative (A.L.F.I.) was developed in 1987 and signed for 11.5 million dollars over the four years of the agreement. The province is delivering all programming to the agriculture sector. During development of ALFI, assistance in preparation of program descriptions was provided to the planning committee. As a member of the subcommittee responsible for evaluation of the ALFI, an evaluation framework was prepared with assistance from staff of Agriculture Canada, Regional Development Branch.

The Planning Unit provides, on behalf of the Department, appropriate agricultural and rural development planning and coordinating services to the provincial central agencies such as the Cabinet Secretariat, Intergovernmental Affairs Office and the Policy Treasury Boards.

Staff of the Unit represent the province and provide logistical support to various groups, boards and organizations.

Early in the year an evaluation was conducted on the daily radio program "Food News" which was part of the Commodity Promotion and Education program. The evaluation was conducted to assess progress towards achieving the goals of the program in creating better public understanding of the agricultural industry.

As part of the process of integrating programs and fiscal budgets, the required program-budget descriptions were developed for the Marketing Branch for both on-going and proposed new programs.

Liaison to Women's Institutes

The Branch continued to provide programming support to the Women's Institutes. A number of projects were implemented jointly with the organization during the year.

In March, a one-day workshop on stress management for farm families was sponsored for thirty people. Dr. Bill Brooks and Lori Miller of PsychWell Associates of Truro were workshop leaders.

In May the regional conference of the Associated Country Women of the World was hosted at Mill River Resort by the Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island. One hundred and ten women from the Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Ontario attended. Plenary session speakers were May Maskow of Toronto and Dr. Ellen McLean of Eureka, Nova Scotia. Workshop leaders were from the province.

The annual provincial convention on May 27-28 had an attendance of approximately 250 people. The program focused on organization needs and directions for the future.

A number of activities throughout the year were used to promote increased understanding of the Island's agri-food industry. Coloring books with a farm message were provided to all grade three students. A four page insert was prepared for two issues of "W.I.News", to provide information directly to Women's Institute members and their families. Food demonstrations featuring Island products were provided at the Summerside Lobster Carnival, Dundas Exhibition and Provincial Exhibition. With assistance from the Agriculture Canada Market Development Program and the home economists of the Department, nine sessions were held in October and November to promote Island agricultural products for holiday season menus. Approximately 650 people attended the sessions held in Charlottetown, Montague, Fortune, Summerside and O'Leary.

In recognition of national Environment Week, Women's Institute co-sponsored with CFCY-Q93 a contest for radio. Commercials were judged on their appropriateness for environmental awareness, with prizes awarded for elementary, junior high, and high school categories.

Leadership development is an on-going activity. Workshops to develop various skills are held annually for Board Members and the general membership. Topic areas in the past year were conducting effective meetings, program planning, and public relations.

The Women's Institute again sponsored the Handicraft and Art classes for the Provincial Exhibition. Approximately 1200 entries were received, judged and displayed. The Women's Institute Building is staffed during the Exhibition by about 300 volunteers. The prize list for 1988 has been prepared and distributed.

Market Education

In March, the two-day conference was attended by approximately 225 people with the theme "Competing in the Marketplace .... more than just luck". The program for the conference centered on market education to increase understanding of the various aspects of marketing and management needed to make Island agriculture more competitive. The conference also included a trade show which provided facilities for agri-business to promote their programs and services for the farm community. During an evening reception at the conference, the Prince Edward Island branch of the Chefs Association co-ordinated presentation of an impressive display of foods from Island agriculture.

For the eighth season, the Branch co-sponsored with Women's Institute a food preservation information service. Nancy George was hired as project worker. The service included a toll-free telephone number for preserving questions and information from July 2-October 9. Daily 60-second radio spots were sponsored by local businesses on Island stations for 14 weeks. Bi-monthly live radio programs were provided on CBC Radio Noon. Weekly articles were written for the Lifestyles portion of the Guardian. Regular use was made of Cornerpost. The program in '87 had a 30 per cent increase in requests, receiving more than 1300 requests for information.

The purchase and development of audio-visual aids for marketing education is an on-going activity. Materials from other sources were reviewed, and program resources were developed by staff.

The Home Economics Coordinating Committee met regularly to review progress on programs, and to develop new activities. The Committee provides a means for the various aspects of home economics extension and marketing education to be coordinated more effectively.

Commodity Education and Promotion

The Commodity Education and Promotion Programs of the Department of Agriculture are designed to assist Island agricultural groups in the education and the promotion of their products to chosen target groups.

The Education and Promotion Program of the Marketing Branch supports two primary objectives:

Objective #1:

To promote the use and value of agriculturally produced foods and their relationship to overall good eating habits. Target groups:

(a) educational system
(b) producers/families
(c) consumers
(d) retailers
(e) food service industry

Objective #2:

To educate the consumer about the role of the agricultural industry in the Island economy, the problems and importance of the agricultural producer in the food system and to inform agricultural producers of consumer concerns.

Commodity Group Projects

Through the Promotion Committee of each of the following agricultural commodity groups, boards or associations, Education and Promotion Programs are planned, co-ordinated and implemented, on their behalf.

Lamb

To support the promotion programs of the P.E.I. Lamb Co-op:

(1) assistance was given to carry out a consumer advertising and accompanying in-store promotion program.

Potatoes

To support the promotion program of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board:

(1) assistance was for professional Home Economics staff to assist with the Board's booth at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, the Canadian Fruit and Vegetable Wholesalers Conference and APEX;

(2) microwave recipes were developed and tested for a new publication "Super Potato Recipes" to be distributed at trade shows and to consumers;

(3) assistance was given to design and print "Super Potato Recipes" and reprint "Choice Cuts".

Vegetables

In response to consumer demand two new recipe publications were developed and printed.

(1) Zucchini,

(2) Versatile P.E.I. Vegetables.

Raspberries

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Raspberry Growers Association:

(1) assistance was given in planning their second annual Raspberry Festival;

(2) the recipe publication "Raspberry Rhapsody" was reprinted;

(3) seasonal media releases with recipes and photos were sent to local newspapers.

Blueberries

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Blueberry Growers Association and/or Wild Blueberry Association of North America (WBANA):

(1) a seasonal newspaper advertising campaign was carried out. The response to a clip and return coupon for the recipe publication "August Blue" was approximately 300. Publications were also sent to selected retail outlets;

(2) seasonal media releases with recipes and photos were sent to local newspapers;

(3) the "Blueberry Bloom Recipe Competition" for chefs and student chefs was held in cooperation with the Culinary Institute of Canada. The competition encouraged the development and use of food service recipes featuring wild blueberries. Response was approximately 45 from P.E.I., N.S., N.B., and Maine.

Jointly with the Agricultural groups' promotion committees and the P.E.I. Development Agency, the following education and promotion programs were conducted.

Pork

The P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board takes part in provincial and maritime and national education and promotion programs.

A. National Programs

P.E.I. is part of the Canada Pork national promotional arm of the Canadian Pork Council. In 1987 both hotel, restaurant, institution and retail promotions and Point of Sale (POS) materials were made available to P.E.I.

B. P.E.I. Programs

In 1987 P.E.I. initiated a provincial support program for the national promotion. Specific projects carried out included:

(1) a retail/consumer pork steak promotion consisting of in-store POS materials, and consumer newspaper advertising and media releases with recipes and photos;

(2) a trial retail ground pork promotion consisting of in-store POS materials;

(3) a retail/consumer "Holiday Crown Roast" promotion consisting of POS materials, consumer newspaper advertising and media releases with recipes and photos;

(4) ten food service promotions with specific outlets. All used a variety of available promotional materials consisting of matches, napkins, tent cards, posters, pork mints, etc.;

(5) provincial releases and direct mailing to health and related professionals on the newly released research on the nutrient value of Canadian pork.

Other provincial programs included:

(6) sponsorship of a successful private company which caters to pork barbecues;

(7) Mini Food Fair, a three day consumer food fair held in Summerside

(8) a community school information and demonstration program.

C. Maritime Programs

Maritime programs are planned and carried out through the Pork Producers Maritime Promotion Committee. Programs include:

(1) APEX - the Atlantic Provinces Restaurant Show in Halifax, N.S.;

(2) Atlantic and Maritime Winter Fairs (consumer shows) in N.S. and N.B.;

(3) Maritime Retail Meat Cutting Seminar held in Moncton, N.B. This information session and meat cutting demonstration introduced approximately 50 meat cutters and meat managers to the 1987 Summer Pork Steak Promotion;

(4) Promise of Pork Gourmet Dinner held in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Approximately 135 attended this dinner designed to promote pork to decision makers in the food service industry. Evaluations indicated that this is a good way to demonstrate the versatile nature and upscale the image of pork. Contacts were followed up with a promotional kit designed to encourage food service promotions.

Eggs

The P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board takes part in national programs developed and implemented by C.E.M.A. (Canadian Egg Marketing Agency) as well as provincially planned and implemented programs.

A. National Programs

These included participation in TV, magazine and outdoor advertising plus other consumer, retail and HRI national promotions i.e., "July is Egg Month". On P.E.I., C.E.M.A. hosted with the provincial board a Gourmet Egg Dinner "Winning Ways with Eggs". This dinner promoted the use of eggs in the HRI industry. Approximately 50 people attended. Press coverage included newspaper, radio and television.

B. Provincial Programs

(1) P.E.I. cooperated nationally with the "July is Egg Month" campaign. The theme tied in local fresh produce with eggs as versatile, convenient and light summer meals. Activities included:

- newspaper advertising in local papers
- radio advertising on all local stations
- in-store sampling in selected major retail outlets in Charlottetown, Summerside and Montague
- distribution of publications and posters
- media releases and interviews

(2) a "Kids Get Cracking with Eggs" recipe contest was held for children ages 8-14 years. Nine finalists were chosen from more than 40 entries.

(3) Other programs included consumer workshops and representation at a three day consumer "Mini Food Fair" in Summerside.

Strawberries

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Association the following was carried out:

(1) A winter promotion of newspaper advertising. Its objective was to remind consumers to use their frozen berries.

(2) A summer promotion consisting of:

a. a reprinting of the strawberry recipe publication called "Simply Strawberries";

b. newspaper recipe advertising with a response to the clip and send coupon of approximately 250;

c. seasonal media releases with recipes and photos

Projects involving more than one commodity and various agencies or organizations were also carried out within the marketing budget.

These projects included:

A. Food News

A week day, one minute food commentary carried on radio stations CFCY, CHTN, and CJRW.

The Promotion Specialist was responsible for the researching, writing and airing of approximately 100 "Food News" releases. The purpose of these releases was to educate consumers about the variety and uses of Island agriculture products, and the problems and concerns in producing and marketing these products.

A telephone evaluation was carried out in the Spring, with a favourable response. The program was terminated in June due to budget cuts.

B. "Country Kitchen" and "Country Corner"

A biweekly newspaper release with accompanying photographs, featuring Island farm women and their on-farm activities. The farm women promote their products through sharing a favorite family-tested recipe of the agricultural product they produce. This was carried out with the help of the Charlottetown and Summerside District Home Economists. The project is now terminated.

C. Other Media

Contributions to CornerPost and Department of Agriculture broadcasts as required.

D. Community School Island Foods Course

Co-ordinated with the various commodity groups and organizations (Beef, Dairy, Potatoes, Pork, Eggs, Fruits and Vegetables, District Home Economists, Fisheries). The development of individual food demonstrations and information programs available on request to Community Schools (10 maximum sessions in each commodity) individually or as a full Island foods course.

E. Island Products First and Last (Spring, 1987)

Six food demonstrations with approximately 400 participants were held across the province. The objective was to promote Island agricultural products. This program was carried out jointly with the District Home Economists.

F. Country Kitchen Christmas (Fall, 1987)

Nine food demonstrations with approximately 650 participants were held across the province. The objective was

to promote Island agricultural products. These programs were carried out in conjunction with the District Home Economists and the Provincial Board of Women's Institute.

G. "A Touch of Class" Island Foods Night

As part of the Department's Conference in March, an Island foods reception was planned and carried out with the assistance of the P.E.I. Chef's Association and the CP Hotel. The objective was to show conference participants the wide range of uses which could be made of our basic agricultural commodities. Approximately 300 people attended including producers, staff, guests and the media.

H. Educational System

An effort was made to introduce and promote the use of existing educational materials in the classroom by:

(1) representation on the Agriculture in the Classroom committee for elementary grades;

(2) representation at a booth at the P.E.I. Teachers' Convention;

(3) Home Economics Teachers' Workshop;

(4) Elementary Teachers' Workshop;

(5) letters to Agriculture and Home Economics teachers re: materials and resources.

I. Meat Month (February, 1987)

An effort was made to update health professionals re the nutritive value of red meat in the diet by:

(1) holding a special workshop and luncheon with guest speaker nutritionist, Linda Corby;

(2) newspaper releases with recipes and photos;

(3) an insertion of resource material in doctors' mailboxes at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital;

(4) a red meat promotion in the cafeteria at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

J. "Can't You Just Taste It" Ad

An ad was placed in the July Summer Food edition of Atlantic Insight, jointly with the P.E.I. Development Agency and the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries. A similar ad was placed in the "Menu Book" jointly with the information section and P.E.I. Department of Fisheries.

K. "Can't You Just Taste It" Poster

A poster was developed and printed based on the ad jointly with the P.E.I. Development Agency and the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries.

L. Photos

A series of food photos were shot jointly with the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries and another series with the P.E.I. Department of Tourism.

M. Airport Display

A photo display was placed at the Charlottetown Airport jointly with the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries.

N. Tourism Trade Show '87

Representation jointly with the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries. The objective was to promote P.E.I. agricultural and fish products.

O. Crapaud Exhibition

Representation jointly with the P.E.I. Department of Fisheries. The objective was to promote P.E.I. agricultural and fish products.

Market Program Agriculture Canada

Two staff members served as members of the Advisory Committee of the Agriculture Canada Market Development Program. Several clients received assistance in preparation of program proposals.

Plant Industry Services Branch

This Branch is responsible for providing farmers with technical advisory services in selective areas of crop production, land management, soil and feed testing, disease control, pesticide regulations and use, and related requirements.

The main thrust of Branch activities applies to servicing the potato industry. Essential services which are required by potato farmers to keep ahead in this highly competitive business are provided by the Potato Industry Services program. Examples of these services include: Disinfection of equipment; inspection of certified seed after planting and table potatoes offered for sale within the Province; cull burial; disease and weed control; and providing information on potato production with special emphasis on the technology required for increased productivity.

The Branch participated in a number of initiatives with farm commodity groups, Government of Canada, concerned Provincial departments, and other provinces to coordinate and promote agricultural programs and services which are required by Prince Edward Island farmers to improve their farm business and management operations.

The Department was represented in the Provincial committee which had the task to recommend a Provincial Conservation Strategy. The concerns about the limited agricultural resources of soil and water were adequately addressed in the strategy.

The commitment of the Department and farmers to protect these resources is best exemplified by the partial regulatory restrictions imposed on the use and application of Temik in the past year under regulations of the Pesticide Control Act.

One program under the Canada/Prince Edward Island Economic Regional Development Agreement which proved to be of great use to farmers in 1987 was the Soil pH Adjustment Program which provided financial assistance on lime purchases for application onto fields with acidity level equivalent to pH value of 5.9 or less.

The Department participated in the discussion of strategy papers prepared by Agriculture Canada and an Assistant Deputy Minister National Committee on future direction of Canadian Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer. All research strategy papers were presented and discussed at a meeting with representative of farm commodity groups and organizations in Charlottetown on November 19, 1987. There were three working papers dealing with the following topics:

Canadian Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer:

Part 1: Future Directions - An Overview;

Part 2: Proposed Strategy - The Agriculture Canada (Research Branch) Perspective; and

Part 3: Provincial Perspectives.

A publication discussing the issues of land use in Atlantic Canada was initiated by the Department under the title of "Atlantic Land Use Guide" in cooperation with representatives of the other Atlantic Provinces. The first draft has been presented to the Atlantic Soil and Climate Committee. Final draft of the publication is expected to be completed by February, 1988.

The European Community voted in favor of granting derogation to Greece, Italy and Portugal to import Canadian Seed Potatoes in 1988. European shipments are tentatively estimated at 8000 metric tonnes (Italy), 8000 metric tonnes (Portugal), and 2,100 metric tonnes (Greece). The main variety requested in these shipments is Kennebec. All seed lots designated for shipment to Europe must be tested in the laboratory for ring rot and must test negative before they are finally approved for shipment.

The Department, in partnership with Agriculture Canada, and the potato industry, has participated in conducting a comprehensive field and laboratory survey of ring rot and spindle tuber viroid to confirm in a scientific and objective way the eradication of these diseases in the province. Negotiations were conducted with the Department of Agriculture, State of Maine, respecting phytosanitary requirements and to promote technical and staff exchange between Canada and Prince Edward Island; and the State of Maine and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

A study was commissioned jointly with Canada Department of Regional Industrial Expansion to explore the feasibility of biotechnological conversion of P.E.I. low grade and cull potatoes into value-added starch-based biochemical products such as - Vitamin C, Citric Acid, Sorbitol, and Dextrose Monohydrate. The study produced a positive outlook with respect to the availability of operational technology, reasonably high returns on investment and competitiveness of potato starch as a source of materials from which to process the desired products. However, there was limited information in the study of markets and marketability of products.

To gain more information on markets for these products, a marketing study was jointly commissioned with Canada Department of Regional Industrial Expansion to

evaluate market potential, explore market structure, and other market determinant factors. It is expected that a final report of this study will be presented to the project team by the end of March, 1988.

Potatoes Canada continued to promote Canadian Seed Potatoes in offshore markets. Promotional programs including technical and visitors exchange with representatives of client countries, the international potato technology course conducted by Nova Scotia Agricultural College, and variety trial programs, received considerable attention by Prince Edward Island potato producers and offshore clients. The Department participated in the discussions conducted to reorganize Potatoes Canada during the period from June to August of 1987. As a result of these discussions, the Department's representation on the Board of Directors of Potatoes Canada was changed.

Foreign delegations from various countries visited Prince Edward Island during the past year to meet with potato industry groups, farmers, and research and provincial extension personnel. The Island guests from offshore countries were given the opportunity to visit potato fields and exchange views with potato farmers and Canadian research staff.

Offshore countries which were represented in 1987 under the P.E.I. visitation program included: Mexico, Brazil, Portugal, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and E.E.C.

During the past year, Provincial Regulations respecting requirements for planting of at least 10 per cent of each variety from Foundation Class Seed, application for inspection on planted acreage, and disinfection of trucks and vehicles before entering potato farm premises, were all in effect and comprehensively enforced. Nonetheless, a total of 15 potato farms, which planted 10.4 hectares were found to have used seed which do not qualify under Provincial and Federal regulations.

There appears to be a variety of reasons why the growers involved choose not to comply with either the Federal or Provincial Regulations. Many do not sell any potatoes off the Island and supply the fresh market trade in their areas, while others sell tablestock for export and/or processing. While growers are accustomed to paying the minimal inspection fee on tablestock, many resent the recent imposition of charges for field inspection.

The Potato Extension Program provided potato producers with information and services on a continuous basis during the length of the growing season. The Anti-Bruise, Making the Grade, and Fertility Update, were notable events in the Potato Extension Program with a high number of farmers attending.

More details of the Branch's advisory and specific technical services which are provided to farmers in the past year are described in the following program reports.

The Potato Extension Program

The Potato Extension Program engaged in various activities to generate awareness and provide the information needed to produce high quality potatoes. The program maintained constant flow of current and pertinent information on production, storage, insect and disease management, fertilizers, disinfection, land management, pesticide safety and retail potato quality to the industry. Seminars, workshops, field tours and conceptual displays exposed members of the potato industry to the production management systems for high quality potatoes.

Information Delivery Program

The program delivered production technology through the public media, special newsletters and fact sheets.

Radio Broadcasts

The daily one-minute Crop Guide and weekly 15-minute Potato Crop Report were aired by local radio stations, from mid-April to the first week of October. A total of 130 Potato Guide articles and 22 Crop Reports were delivered during the period.

Media Releases

Various topics on production management and events concerning the potato industry were released during the growing season. A total of 59 articles were carried by the local daily newspapers. Some major events were also covered by the television media.

Periodic Publications

Information on specific aspects of production management were published in a regular 2-page insert called "Potato News" in the Potato Marketing Board newsletter. Articles were also published in the CornerPost and the Island Farmer.

Fact Sheets

Fact Sheets on pertinent technical topics for production management were prepared to guide producers. The program updated the Prince Edward Island Potato Growers' Production Handbook.

Technology Exchange Program

The 1987 field tours provided the potato industry representatives opportunities to view production systems and research systems and research activities on potatoes in Prince Edward Island and the Northwestern United States.

Field Tours on Prince Edward Island

Two major field tours were organized for the members of the potato industry.

A field tour of the potato research farm of Agriculture Canada and the innovative techniques utilized by producers

across the Island, was extended to producers. A second tour to the Elite Seed Farm at Fox Island introduced several members of the potato industry to the techniques used to produce disease-free seed potatoes for the province.

Tour of Western United States

The Potato Technology Exchange Tour exposed potato industry representatives and the potato specialist to potato operations in Washington and Idaho states. The tour focused on potato production, harvesting, handling, packaging and storage systems and equipment for delivering high quality spuds to the market. The group interacted with producers, researchers, extension personnel, and members of the Potato Commission in the areas visited.

Seminars and Workshops

Seminars

Two major seminars were organized by the branch under the concepts "Making the Grade" and "Potato Fertility Update". The former was held at Summerside and the latter at North River. Both seminars were well attended by producers, extension and research staff, agri-business and other groups interested in Agriculture.

The "Making the Grade" Seminar covered the theme "Managing Disease for Quality Potato Production." The topics covered included: How to Manage Bacterial, Viral, and Fungal Disease and Nematode Problems in Potatoes; Update of the North American Task Force on Bacterial Ring Rot; Phytosanitary Requirements for Export; and Disease Testing Available on P.E.I. The key speaker outlined the principles of bacterial disease control and the importance of ring rot eradication as a North American issue.

The "Potato Fertility Update" covered topics in the area of Fertility Management Services Available at the provincial Department of Agriculture; Fertilizers, Nitrogen and Groundwater Quality; Integrated Potato Management, A Concept for Success; Potato Irrigation, Does it Pay? Nutrient Efficiency and Potato Viruses; A farmers' Approach to Soil Testing and Tissue Testing Programs; and the Role of Foliar Nutrients in a Potato Fertility Program. The key speaker provided information on foliar nutrients and the Concept of Integrated Potato Management.

Workshops

A major field event was the 1987 Potato Anti-bruise Campaign. The Potato anti-bruise harvester clinics were organized for each county. For the first time one week of awareness of potato bruise prevention was carried by the television media.

The Potato Specialist also covered topics on potato bruise prevention during handling and grading at the Potato Grading Course coordinated by the Marketing Branch of the Department.

The program promoted a number of concepts of proven technology through static displays, video films and field demonstrations. The program acquired a table top display kit. Five concepts of potato technology in pictorial with narrative of the subject in 1987 were: Bacterial Ring Rot and its impact on World Trade; Drainage Systems for Soil Conservation; U.S. Technology Exchange Tours; Potato Disinfection Operations and the Aphid Alert Program.

1987 Crop Statistics

In Prince Edward Island, the Plant Disease Eradication Act Regulations require that growers producing in excess of 0.1 hectares of potatoes: (a) Plant with certified or higher class of seed; and (b) Plant at least 10 per cent Foundation of each variety, and apply to Agriculture Canada for Certification. Part 'b' of the Regulations came into effect in 1987. However, provincial inspection was carried out for non-seed operations that did not meet the standards.

One inspector was employed by the provincial Department of Agriculture to conduct field and harvest inspections on farms which did not meet the requirements for Federal inspection. A minimum of two inspections were carried out on each of the 43 farms covering 405.7 hectares during their 1987 crop year.

A total of 697 seed growers applied for field inspection on 23771.6 hectares planted from Elite and Foundation class seed. These growers also planted 3483.7 hectares which were not eligible for re-certification but received inspection by Federal Inspectors. Prince Edward Island produced in total 27,255.3 hectares in the 1987 crop year.

The eight main varieties accounted for 98.3 per cent for the total production. The production data in hectares for the 1985 to 1987 crop year are presented in the following table:

Variety	1987	1986	1985
Russet Burbank	12704.5	12530.2	12483.1
Superior	4215.9	3527.1	4060.3
Kennebec	4077.8	4499.9	5705.0
Shepody	2747.7	2399.7	1595.8
Sebago	1978.2	2136.0	3003.0
Atlantic	486.9	353.7	200.0
Norchip	312.3	256.62	122.4
Red Pontiac	255.3	289.9	626.0
Total	26778.6	25993.1	27795.6

The Florida Test

The Department of Agriculture Canada Inspection Staff assisted the U.S. counterparts in planting the potatoes in Homestead, Florida. A sample of 400 small uniform tubers of all seed lots were assembled by seed inspectors at harvest time and transported to Grand Falls, New Brunswick where all the Maritime lots were received. The samples were fumigated with Ridite to break tuber dormancy. In 1987, Prince Edward Island submitted 1102 samples for testing. During the winter months, readings to determine the percentages of virus diseases present, are undertaken.

Extension Plant Pathology

The Prince Edward Island Provincial Plant Diagnostic Service provides identification and recommendations of disease problems related to potatoes (73 per cent client demand for 1987) and other crops (27 per cent client demand for 1987). Potato fields and potato storage areas were visited and samples were collected in order to determine the primary cause or causes of the problem. Routinely, laboratory tests and procedures were carried out for confirmation of disease identification. The tabulation of this information gives a strong indication of disease levels which are causing quality and yield reductions within P.E.I. potato fields.

The 1987 potato growing year was indeed an exceptional season. This was characterized by lack of moisture and above normal temperatures. The unfavourable growing conditions reduced the incidence of foliar disease such as Late Blight and Botrytis Vine Rot. The number of cases of Late Blight identified during the 1986-87 season were two isolated incidences. However, the levels of Early Blight incidences reported increased by nine per cent as compared to last year. This was triggered by dry conditions and a reduction in the number of foliar fungicides applied (average fungicide applied for the 1987 season ranged between four to six applications). The most common disease which was noted in significant levels of 12 per cent and above in the major potato varieties was Rhizoctonia. Two other diseases which were found more frequently were Blackleg (2.3 per cent) and Verticillium Wilt (4 per cent).

Economically the most costly disease problem this year was Common Scab. The levels of Scab increased this season by nine per cent due to moisture stress. However, one cannot justify that the problem occurred mainly due to having a dry season and/or a susceptible variety. A request was put forth by the Atlantic Potato Advisory Committee requesting additional research work on this disease. A grower survey was conducted to identify the severity of the problem and possible areas where research is required. An additional disease which appears to be increasing is Silver Surf. This is mainly due to the increased number of potato wash plants.

Additional problems encountered during the year included; seed piece decay and the "little tuber" syndrome. These were induced partially by weather conditions and also by poor quality seed.

Various news releases and 26 media scripts on potato diseases were prepared by the Plant Pathologist. The provincial pathologist completed seven presentations during the year on potato diseases. Two new Agri-Fact Sheets were published on Potato Viruses and Botrytis Vine Rot. As well, an educational display kit on Bacterial Ring Rot was completed. Three mini projects were conducted; Number 1 - To Test a potential serological laboratory test for Blackleg; Number 2 - To test a specific number of fields for the Clover Cyst Nematode. Three additional ongoing projects include: The Late Blight Forecast Program, Potato field Monitoring Program, and Potato Seed Treatment Trials.

Late Blight Forecast Program

The potato Late Blight Forecast Program assists growers with the scheduling of timely fungicide applications for control of Late Blight in potatoes. Several improvements have been made to the system: 1) The number of stations reduced from eleven to ten. This decreased the traveling time required; 2) The weather Radio Cycle for the Atmospheric Environment Service carried the forecast; 3) The Aphid Alert information was included in the forecast; and 4) The Program was extended until the third week of September.

A mail out survey was conducted to identify potato producers' requests for program improvements. A 13.3 per cent return rate from 480 mail-out survey forms was obtained. Overall, the comments on the program were positive. The program provides a disease-monitoring service to potato producers which is essential for the ongoing control of Late Blight.

Potato Field Monitoring Program

This program provides a field monitoring service to the potato producer. It provides technical assistance to the client and in turn, statistical information on management practices can be collected. For the 1986 season, there were 22 producers from all areas of the Island. For the 1987 growing season, there were 11 potato producers from the Summerside and O'Leary Districts involved in this project. Results included information on crop rotation, seed source, seeding rates, seed placement and other cultural practices for the Russet Burbank variety.

Potato Seed Treatment Trails

A new method for planting seed has been adopted by potato producers. The purpose of this project is to evaluate several seed treatments on the market and to demonstrate the management requirements on pre-cut potato seed versus seed cut on the day of planting. This project will continue for at least four years. The application of a seed treatment is an insurance to the potato producers for protecting the crop against fungal organism. Pre- cut seed is a management technique potato producers have developed to manage their time for seed preparation more effectively.

Potato Disease Control Program

The Potato Disease Control Program consists of all programs and policies directed toward the control, and eventual eradication of potato disease, especially Bacterial Ring Rot. These programs include:

1) On-farm disinfection of all potato handling and storage equipment;
2) Disinfection of potato transports at points of entry to P.E.I. (Albany and Wood Islands);
3) Disinfection of trucks at local process plants;
4) Disinfection of pallets at potato export wharves;

5) Potato Cull Burial Assistance Program.

The above programs provide assistance to growers to clean up and dispose of infected material and to protect the introduction of disease causing organisms.

Plant Disease Eradication Act

The Seed Incentive Program, under the Plant Disease Eradication Act provides a $30.00 per acre payment to growers who have been required to clean up under the Plant Disease Eradication Act, and who have planted Foundation Class seed following the clean up.

In 1987, a total of 22 farms were eligible for Seed Incentive payment.

A number of amendments to the Plant Disease Eradication Act and Regulations were passed. The Amendments allow for enforcement of proper disposal of culls, truck disinfection, and quarantine of infected farms.

An advisory committee to the Minister established under the Act consisting of Industry, Marketing Board, Agriculture Canada and P.E.I. Department of Agriculture representatives meet on a regular basis.

Under the Act, all positive infected and contact farms must be completely cleaned and disinfected before further crops are grown.

In the spring of 1987, a total of 22 farms were completely disinfected by the mobile disinfection service.

Potato Cull Burial Assistance Program

The Potato Cull Burial Assistance Program is available to all Island potato producers. The program provides assistance for the cost of burial of cull or unsaleable potatoes. Disease surveys have shown that the appearance of Late B'ight has been delayed by one month since the introduction of the program.

During the 1987 season, 141 burials were approved under the program. Growers who have been forced to clean up under the act were eligible for 100 per cent assistance on burial costs, while non-infected growers were assisted at the 50% level.

Potato Disinfection Program

The Potato Disinfection Services include: on-farm disinfection of all potato handling equipment, disinfection service for delivery trucks and facilities at major potato processing plants, a truck disinfection service for all inbound potato trucks at Albany and Wood Islands, and a pallet disinfection operation at the export wharves.

Mobile disinfection units and stationary truck disinfection units are maintained year round (Wood Islands during ferry operations only) and are free-of-charge to all users.

To make inbound vehicle operators aware of the Truck Disinfection Program, a taped announcement was recorded and used by C.N. Ferries commencing with fall shipping season.

Disinfection Statistics

1987 Stationary Truck Disinfection Units

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Albany	1511	1319	1629	1963	1178	639	55	65	216	608	846	
Wood Is.	-	-	-	-	91	101	28	54	93	171	186	

TOTAL (ALBANY) -	10,029
TOTAL (WOOD ISLANDS) -	724
TOTAL	10,753

†1987 Mobile Disinfection Services

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
** Farm Equip	1875	1489	1662	2155	2977	1310	557	323	1279	2713	1504	
* Trucks	2608	1756	2113	2664	1894	1090	141	133	448	1179	1313	

TOTAL (FARM EQUIPMENT) -	17,844
TOTAL (TRUCKS) -	14,799
TOTAL	32,643

† Stats. up to December, 1987
* Transport Trucks Carrying Potatoes off P.E.I.
** Includes Vehicle Disinfection at Cavendish Farms (Average 45/Day)

Retail Potato Inspection

This service ensures that all potatoes and turnips retailed on Prince Edward Island are of consistent good quality and conform to proper grade standards.

The standards set under the Agriculture Products Standards Act call for potatoes to be graded to canada No. 1 or the equivalent which has been downgraded to Canada No. 2 only because of size.

Canada No. 1 potatoes can be sold in any type of package or bulk, while Canada No. 2's must be sold washed and in polyethylene bags. The standards set under the act will ensure that the local consumer receives the best quality potatoes.

The retail inspector visited with many farmers and talked with them about the quality of potatoes, and in accordance with his mandate, made several requests to have their products removed from the stores and replaced with better quality potatoes. The inspector is well received by the Produce Managers in the Island stores because of their commitment to sell top quality potatoes and turnips.

The inspector visits Island stores for produce quality on an average of once a month in rural P.E.I. and in the larger centers about twice a week. The number of stores visited is approximately 60 stores a week, or 255 a month. The inspector reports that the quality is much better than when the program first began.

Land Resource Services

Soil and Feed Testing Program

Services of the Soil & Feed Testing Laboratory form an integral part of production management services provided to all farmers in the province. The Soil Testing and Plant Tissue Testing Program provides the basis for fertilizer, limestone and land management programs in all crop areas. The Greenhouse Soil Testing Service provides similar information for greenhouse and bedding plant growers plus tobacco and vegetable growers who start transplant stock in greenhouses. The Feed Testing Program is an essential element of livestock feeding programs for all livestock classes. In all cases, the lab services are delivered to farmers in concert with the extension programs of Specialist and District Office Staff.

During the year, samples completed for farmers included: 5651 soils, 335 greenhouse soils, 3924 livestock feeds and 840 plant tissue. In addition to this workload for primary clients, 4719 samples were completed as part of research and/or demonstration projects for government agencies; including 1977 water samples completed as a part of an ongoing cooperative arrangement with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. In total, more than 110,000 individuals tests or analyses were carried out. Of the operational programs, the feed testing program experienced the greatest growth with 14 per cent more samples received from farmers than any previous year.

A new limestone assistance program was made available to farmers in 1986. The Soil & Water Program, offered by Agriculture Canada under the current ERDA Sub-Agreement, was amended to provide assistance of $20/tonne on limestone applied to eligible fields. The District Agricultural Offices and the Soil & Feed Lab cooperated in establishing the eligibility of field for assistance. The eligibility of fields was based primarily on the initial soil pH of the field and the farmer's intent to carry out "remedial" limestone applications. During the initial year of this two-year program, 4285 samples were received, of which 2375 were deemed eligible. This translated into a total provincial eligibility of 88,685 tonnes of limestone under the program.

Numerous improvements and changes were made during the year in laboratory operations. Two new positions were added to the lab staff which will accommodate increased demands on the facility plus reduce the need for part-time staff. As part of a major Departmental New Initiative, an ICP Spectrometer was ordered. This will greatly increase lab efficiency plus will increase the number and diversity of analysis available in some programs. This instrument will not be operational until early 1988, however, lab organization and methodology has been modified in preparation for it. A study on the staff involvement in various programs and activities was completed which will serve as a basis for improved staff efficiency in future.

In addition to laboratory services, the program carries out various extension activities during the year. The most significant of these was the organization of "Fertility Update '87", a soil fertility management seminar held in North River in December. The emphasis of this activity is directed toward the potato industry and this year the focus was on fertility management programs and foliar nutrient application. In total, 93 registered for the seminar including 63 primary producers. Response to the program and topics was very positive.

Table 1

Laboratory Statistics - 1987

Sample Description	Number Completed
Farmer's Soils	5,651
Research & Special Project Soils	1,485
Greenhouse Soils	335
pH Adjustments Program Soils	4,285
Farmers' Feed	3,924
Research & Special Project Feeds	528
Farmers' Plant Tissue Samples	840
Research & Special Project Plant Tissues	220
Veterinary Pathology	320
Water Chemistry Samples	1,977
Other	189
TOTAL	19,754

Land Management

During the 1986-1987 period, a total of 95 applications had been received for project development and assistance under the ERDA Soil and Water Conservation Program.

Approximately 600,000 feet of tile drainage was installed under that program, as well as grassed waterways and other runoff and erosion control devices.

The soil specialist carried out detailed soil surveys on about 2,000 acres, including the evaluation of several hundred acres of organic bogs, and the productivity potential evaluation of 150 acres of forest/brush land.

Although the Farm Mapping Program has been relatively inactive since 1984 (due to the cartographic aspects of the ERDA and Water Conservation Program) there were requests from three previous clients for updated and/or more detailed information.

The Land Management Section, in fulfilling its responsibilities under the ERDA/PEP program, designed and installed computerized sediment measuring and runoff monitoring stations at three demonstration sites on Prince Edward Island (i.e., Albany, Norboro, and Grandview). These stations will be maintained by PEP until 1989.

The Section also continued to participate in monitoring the soil and crop effects of centre pivot irrigation of potatoes in Alberry Plains (a PEP project). The data was presented to producers in summary at the annual Potato Fertility Seminar in November 1987.

The soil specialist, in cooperation with other provincial agricultural resource management specialists, developed a draft of the proposed Federal/Provincial Accord on Soil and Water Conservation and Development, and a preliminary draft of a 5-year work plan.

The specialist and staff participated in a number of other Branch activities, including the 1987 "Making the Grade" potato production; a technology workshop; the Potato Anti-Bruise Campaign; the development of static displays highlighting Branch programs; radio tapes and written articles for Department and media.

Disease and Pest Control Services

Weed and Pest Control Aphid Alert

Island potato producers were provided with the Aphid Alert Service between July and mid-September. Twenty-four yellow pan monitoring traps were strategically located across the Island to monitor flights of the green peach aphid, potato aphid, and the buckthorn aphid. This program also monitored three additional insects which attack the potato crop: the potato flea beetle, tarnished plant bug, and six-spotted leaf hopper. The traps were serviced twice a week by provincial staff; with the samples collected sent directly to the Charlottetown laboratory for identification. The number of insects collected by trap was placed on a computer with a weekly report produced. In addition to the weekly producer reports, routine updates were given to the media to indicate any significant insect population increases found. The green peach aphid, the aphid with the most potential in transmitting potato virus, did not appear in the traps until August. The green peach aphid population flights were again low this year. With the aphid alert program, potato producers were able to schedule insect spray programs more effectively through the weekly information made available.

Tansy Ragwort Control Demonstrations

Studies were conducted on the effects of herbicides in controlling the poisonous weed Tansy Ragwort. Five demonstration trials were set out across P.E.I. in 1985 and monitored annually.

The five demonstration sites established were in Souris, Cardigan, New Glasgow, Freetown and Ellerslie. At each site 10 different herbicides combinations were replicated four times to determine the most economical treatment that farmers can be assured of in achieving adequate Tansy Ragwort control. The herbicide combinations were: Dicamba (Banvel), 2,4-D (Amine 500), and 2,4-D (LV Ester). The treatment, dicamba (Banvel) plus 2,4-D (Amine 500) provided 97 per cent control in the 1986 season and 95 per cent control for the 1987 season. With this tank-mixture, a two-year control of Tansy Ragwort can be obtained with a cost of $4.12 per acre per year. It is recommended that this treatment be applied between mid-May to June 10 to achieve such a control as described above.

At the demonstration sites, public tours allowed local farmers, government personnel and industry representatives to see the benefits of the herbicide treatments. These tours allowed more than 200 people to observe these demonstrations.

Alfalfa Herbicide Trial

Good weed control is essential for effective forage establishment and production. Heavy infestation of weeds in a new seeding of alfalfa can reduce stand density.

A study was conducted on the effects of herbicides in controlling weeds in a new seeding of alfalfa. The trail was conducted in New Dominion with the previous field crop being permanent pasture.

Rutabaga Maggot Trial

The Cabbage Maggot causes considerable damage to rutabagas in Prince Edward Island. The long growing period of rutabaga in P.E.I. allows two and a partial third generation of cabbage maggots to attack the crop. A study was carried out in the Brookfield area to evaluate the effectiveness of four insecticides. Furadan, Guthion, Dasanit and Birlane enabled percentages of 98, 93, 95 and 94 respectively, of the harvested rutabagas suitable for retail sale. Therefore all drenches gave excellent Cabbage Root Maggot Control.

Root Lesion Nematode Control Using Aldicarb (Temik)

A study was carried out to determine the efficiency of aldicarb used on potatoes (Kennebecs) for nematode control. The trial showed, at a cost of $46.24/acre, an increase of 51 cwt/acre compared to potatoes with no aldicarb applied.

Colorado Potato Beetle (CPB) Resistance Test Trial

The Colorado Potato Beetle is a serious pest of potatoes in Prince Edward Island. The use of organic insecticides to control this pest in other potato growing areas of North America has promoted (CPB) development of pesticide resistance.

The study confirmed the development of CPB resistance to recommended insecticides. CPB resistance to Furadan was detected on one farm here on P.E.I.

Pheromone Trap Trials

The European Corn Borer, Corn Earworm and Fall Armyworm are economic pests of corn in Prince Edward Island.

A study was carried out on two Island farms to evaluate the effectiveness in capturing these insect pests in corn with the use of pheromone traps. Two pheromone strains were used for capturing the European Corn Borer; one strain from Iowa and another from New York. The other two pheromones used were a Fall Armyworm and Corn Earworm. These traps were set up in corn fields in the Charlottetown and Montague Areas.

Results showed that the Iowa strain for the European Corn Borer attracted more Corn Borer than the New York strain. These results held true for both locations. No fall Armyworms or Corn Earworms were caught in either location with the pheromone traps. This study indicates that pheromone traps can be used successfully to monitor European Corn Borer flights in Prince Edward Island with the Iowa strain.

Field Mint Demonstration Trial

The perennial weed Field Mint was treated with Round-up in a grain stubble field. The trial will be assessed in 1988.

Potato Nematode Survey

A nematode survey in cooperation with Agriculture Canada was conducted across Prince Edward Island in the fall of 1987 on 53 fields (ten farms), to be planted to potatoes in 1988. Results will be available in the Spring of 1988.

Weed and Pest Control Extension Services

The major publications made available to Island Farmers this year were:

1987 Guide to Chemical Weed Control;
1987 Potato Crop Pest Control Recommendations;
1987 P.E.I. Potato Pesticide Recommendations;
Wild Oat Fact Sheet;
Avenge (Difenzoquat) Wild Oat Herbicide Fact Sheet; and
Hoe-Grass (Diclofop-methyl) Wild Oat Herbicide Fact Sheet.

Two sprayer calibration demonstrations were conducted for Island farmers: one in Souris and another in the Charlottetown area. Approximately 50 producers observed these calibration demonstrations.

A total of 170 farm calls were carried out by the Weed and Pest control section. Ninety-six calls concerned weed problems and 74 concerned insect problems.

Major insect problems encountered this year were Corn Borer damage in potato fields and Diamond Back Moth damage in brussels sprout fields. When these insect damages appeared in the fields, the damage was completed and control measures were not effective. Due to the hot, dry growing season potato crop insects were minimal. Earwigs and the Strawberry Root Weevils also presented problems this year.

The major problems were Chickweed and Corn Spurry in grain fields. Quackgrass as usual was a problem encountered prior to crop planting. Cudweed was a severe problem in some forage fields with Shepherds Purse a problem in strawberry and soybean crops.

Information to producers on weed and pest control activities was released through the media (i.e., Farm Reports, Potato Crop Reports, and Potato Marketing Board Newsletter).

Pesticides Control Act

This act and its regulations was proclaimed on July 7, 1987. This act, under the Authority of the Minister of Agriculture, regulates the sale, use, and handling of pesticides within the Province. Pesticides are registered for use in Canada under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada) and that use is based on the information provided on the label.

Now more than ever, users of pesticides, as well as consumers of products that have been treated with pesticides, are asking questions and seeking information. Users query in terms of cost/benefit analysis. The public is concerned with the health and safety of individuals and the environment. Compliance to label guidelines is necessary for the protection of all concerned and failure to comply puts one in contravention of the law.

Pesticides Control Program

Seven license classifications were available to those involved in the sale or commercial application of pesticides on P.E.I. The importance of upgrading the educational and licensing requirements continues. This past year, study kits were mailed out to persons applying for a Class 'E' license and a new exam was developed. These are people involved in lawn and ornamental shrubbery applications of various pesticides.

Programs and seminars/workshops for licensed pesticides vendors and aerial applicators were held this past season. Dealer facilities were inspected and observations were noted regarding their storage/display areas as they must comply with minimum standards in order to obtain a pesticides sales license.

Table 1

Pesticide Applicators and Dealers Licensed

Class	Type	1986	1987
A	Ground	1	-
B	Aerial	7	6
C	Structural	6	7
E	Lawn Care - Industrial	19	13
F	Other	4	3
Dealer	Wholesale or Retail	44	46

Aerial Application

In accordance with the act and regulations, all aerial spraying requires a Use Permit and conditions are now part of the regulations which deal specifically with aerial spraying. Three companies made their services available this year for the purpose of aerial applications.

Acreage Treated by Aircraft - 1987

Treatment	Acreage
Potato Insecticide & Fungicide	3611
Potato Fungicide	36500
Potato Systemic Fungicide	1992
Potato Herbicide (Topkill)	850
Potato Insecticide (synthetic pyrethroids)	2822
Tobacco Insecticide - Micronutrients	4000
Fertilizer	520
Grass Seed	28
Other	109
TOTAL	50432

Pesticides Advisory Committee

The Pesticides Control Act allows for better representation on the committee with a nine-member board, thus allowing more participation from farm and other user groups, as well as government departments. The committee must also conduct a public hearing at least one a year to hear submissions from the public respecting any matter concerning pesticides and their use.

The committee stresses the need for educational programs for those involved in the use of pesticides. Members of this committee work in small sub- committees to effectively assess and evaluate particular areas of concern and report to the whole committee. As a result, new examination and evaluation procedures for various classifications have been developed, the assessment of storage area conditions are in process, and by this means the Act and its Regulations are continuously under review.

As a liaison group, the committee has received input and presentation from water resources personnel, Environmental Protection Services staff, an official from the Federal Health Protection office and others. Various provincial and Federal Department of Agriculture employees are also sources of information and frequent the committee meeting when agenda items are pertinent to their respective areas of concern.

Investigation Reports

The pesticide control inspector filed several investigation reports during the past year. These reports ranged from drift damage caused by ground application of herbicides to non-target drifting of aerially-applied fungicides. Telephone inquiries and subsequent follow-up procedures were conducted relating to the compliance of aerial spraying regulations as well as the reporting of pesticide poisoning incidents.

Other Programs

The inspector worked closely with Conservation and Protection Services, Environment Canada who were at work in the province during the past season monitoring various activities. A Pesticide Inventory Survey of all licensed pesticide dealers was completed and a study of pesticides used on an Island Watershed was initiated.

This year it was recommended that Temik (ALDICARB) be used only under a Use Permit in the province for the 1987 season. The guidelines under which Temik could be used were a means by which use of the product could be monitored in the province. In doing so, it requested the cooperation of pesticide vendors, commodity groups and related agencies and departments.

For the 1987 cropping season, growers had to apply and receive approval, after a prior field inspection, that aldicarb could be used on their potato acreage. The fields were re-inspected during the growing season to ensure these fields were in compliance with the six conditions of approval. Agriculture Canada and P.E.I. Department of Agriculture coordinated efforts to retrieve potato samples from each field where Temik was applied for subsequent analysis of the potato tubers. P.E.I. Community Affairs (Water Resource Section) surveyed 52 private wells this year for Temik analysis. Of the 52 water samples obtained, 34 were repeats from 1986 and 18 were new for this sampling season.

The Pesticide Information Centre, a toll-free information number (566-1270) was available during the spraying season from June to september. The Island public and farm community were frequent users of this service as calls were received at the rate of forty per month on average, with a higher incidence of calls being reported in July and August.

A National Toll-Free Telephone Service was set up to provide pesticide information to the public. Agriculture Canada personnel within the Pesticides Directorate were available at 1-800-267-6315 to answer questions on pesticide registration, label information, safety precautions, and other issues surrounding pesticide use.

Unused and unwanted pesticides in various locations throughout the province have been a matter of concern for the committee and others. Initial steps have been taken by Government departments to obtain a inventory list of such products. The cooperation of the farmers and others is required to ascertain the quantities involved.

Information Regarding Pesticides

Fact sheets, news releases, and other news items of interest were circulated through local newspapers, radio, T.V., farm and government publications, and other forms of media in an attempt to inform pesticides users, as well as the general public.

Planning and Operations Branch

The Planning and Operations Branch was established in early 1987 with the responsibility of assisting in the planning and evaluation of programs. In 1987, there was a staff of two.

1987 Highlights

- The development of an Agricultural Strategy Outline for the c consideration of the P.E.I. Policy Board in June;
- the development of a Management Council through which Branch Directors and administration of the department may consider and make reccomendations to the Minister on policy and program issues;
- the further refinement of the Agricultural Strategy Outline for the consideration of Policy Board in December, 1987;
- the development of an approach linking budgets and the planning function was approved and set in operation to be effective for the beginning of the 1988 - 1989 budget year.

Women's Institute Report

During the year Women's Institutes in the province began their recognition of their seventy-fifth anniversary. In 1913 the Department of Agriculture initiated the formation of branches across the province to serve as an educational organization for rural women. Over the years, Women's Institute and the Department have worked closely together on many projects in the interest of the Island agricultural industry. The Women's Institute is coordinated and directed by a Board of 17 elected volunteers. There are at present 179 branches in the province with a total membership of approximately 3000. The branches and Board of Directors operate under the Women's Institute Act (1974), which provides the frame-work of operation and responsibilities for Women's Institutes in Prince Edward Island.

Educational Programs

The Women's Institute provides women with the opportunity to learn new skills and information on a range of topics touching on many aspects of family and rural life.

The Board of Directors provides a library of program material in support of the educational programs carried on by branches. During the year the library provided 150 loans on seventeen topics. The district home economists also present programs to Women's Institute groups. Staff visited 55 groups to present requested topics. For the first time, programs were made available on video, and are proving very effective.

In March, Women's Institute and the Department cooperated in sponsoring a workshop for farm families on stress management. Dr. Bill Brooks and Lori Miller were workshop leaders for the 30 people attending.

Activities to increase understanding and appreciation of the agricultural industry continued under the theme "From Farm To Table". Farm coloring books were provided to all grade three students, with an accompanying outline for classroom use. Financial assistance from Agriculture Canada's Market Development Program made possible a series of food demonstrations promoting Island agriculture at three fairs and exhibitions. A series of nine food demonstration was held in late fall in five centres with approximately 650 people attending. Commodities featured in the presentation included beef, potatoes, dairy products, fruits, and vegetables.

The Women's Institute with the support of the Marketing Branch sponsored and provided a food preservation information service for all Islanders. The service included a toll-free telephone number for preserving information from July 2 - October 9, 1987. Daily 60-second radio spots were sponsored on Island stations by local businesses for 14 weeks. Biweekly live radio programs were carried on

CBC Radio Noon. Weekly articles were written for the Guardian and Journal Pioneer. Articles were also featured in CornerPost during July, August and September. The '87 program had a 30 per cent increase over last year's requests, with over 1300 contacts made to the program for information.

Leadership Workshops are an on-going activity in recognition of the essential role of skilled leadership in the vitality and strength of an organization. The program for Provincial Board members centers on public relations, media communications, and program planning. The workshop for area convention officers focused on the planning and skills important to conducting an effective convention. Workshops for the membership featured training in public relations as a key to communicating an accurate message of the organization's activities and goals.

The 74th **Annual Provincial Convention** was held at the Prince Edward Hotel and Convention Centre May 27 and 28, 1987. The theme was "Gear Up For Tomorrow". Guests at the evening banquet included Lieutenant Governor Lloyd MacPhail and Mrs. MacPhail; Dale Dewar, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Mayor Ready, City of Charlottetown; and guest speaker, Dori Gingera, from the Manitoba Department of Agriculture.

Ms. Gingera's address centered around the organization and each individual member's responsibility to the organization. As a group, Women's Institute can be an effective vehicle for change in the community and province. Discussion groups took a look at the "image" of the organization and provided an opportunity for members to set directions on programs and issues.

With the support of a grant from the Women's Program, Secretary of State, Women's Institute compiled a 95-page information book for women who are alone through separation, divorce, or death. The book called "Women Alone Again" was released for public distribution in May. Several hundred copies have been distributed through workshops and personal requests.

Women's Institute sponsored two delegates to the third **National Farm Women's Conference** held in Saskatoon in November. The information from the conference will be a factor in future programs related to agriculture which Women's Institute spearheads.

Projects

As part of an international organization, Women's Institute has the opportunity to share in projects which will help improve the quality of life and health in developing countries. Funds have been contributed for the support of children in Nepal and the Philipines. A student is being sponsored to study community development at the Coady Institute in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. An exchange was begun with Women's Institute members from Devon, England when the English group visited in September.

The Food, Handicraft and Art Divisions of the Provincial Exhibition were sponsored as a means for Island craft people to compete and promote their high quality work. Approximately 1200 items were entered in 1987. The Women's Institute Building was open to the public for six days, and staffed by approximately 300 volunteers.

Women's Institute continued to participate in activities in support of Environment Week. Many branches spearheaded the annual roadside clean-up for their community. A new activity in 1987 was the co-sponsorship with CFCY and Q-93 radio stations of a radio script competition within the school system. The winning scripts in each category were aired during Environment Week. Women's Institute continues support of an awareness campaign as a means of increasing public responsibility for the quality of the environment.

Awards and Presentations

The **Adelaide Hoodless Award of Honour** is given to nominees judged to have made an outstanding contribution to Women's Institute. The 1987 recipient was Mrs. Mamie (Edward) Laughlin of Sherbrooke.

In 1987 an award was created to recognize the contribution of women to agriculture. The first recipient of the Award was Mrs. Irene (Parker) Jewell of York.

During the Summerside Lobster Carnival and Livestock Exhibition, Women's Institute and the County Fair Mall recognize nominees for the Woman of the Year Award who have been examples of outstanding contribution to community and family. The 1987 recipient was Mrs. Leta Andrew, New Glasgow. Each year the Helen Herring Scholarship of $500. is awarded to a home economics student. The 1987 winner was Nancy Whiteway of Sherwood. During the Provincial Convention recognition was given to supporters of Women's Institute with the presentation of awards to Friends of Women's Institute. Those recognized in 1987 were Hearts and Flowers and CFCY radio.

Linkages

Women's Institutes in Prince Edward Island is linked nationally to other provinces through membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. The province has three representatives on the national board. Through participation in the national organization, Women's Institutes in the province gain through exchange of programs, and are able to work together nationally on major common issues. Two such current national issues are family abuse and agriculture in the classrooms.

At the international level, Women's Institute in Prince Edward Island is a member of the Associated Country Women of the World. Associated Country Women of the World has member organizations in over 70 countries, with a worldwide membership of approximately nine million. The provincial president is a member of the World Council. May 11-13, 1987 the Prince Edward Island Women's Institute hosted an Eastern Canada Regional meeting of Associated Country Women of the World at Mill River Resort, with 115 women attending from Atlantic Canada, Quebec and Ontario. Major Conference speakers were World President, Dr. Ellen McLean and May Maskow, a consultant in international development from Toronto.

Women's Institute has a representative on a number of boards and associations with complimentary programs and projects including Transition House, Island Community Theatre, and Provincial 4-H Council.

Department of Agriculture
Financial Statement
Year Ending March 31, 1987

	Expenditure	Revenue (Other than ERDA)
Administration	460,807.14	3,100.00
Marketing		
Marketing	10,051,777.14	6,000,000.00
Hog Stabilization	1,169,355.48	
Commodity Promotion &Education	174,144.27	
Food Technology Centre	54,279.52	
	11,449,556.41	6,000,000.00
Plant Industry Services		
Branch Management	214,562.08	
Soil & Feed Testing	251,556.47	
Disease & Weed Control	118,857,52	1,600.48
Potato Industry Services	349,803.11	60.00
Potato Disease Control	887,063.83	2,220.00
Limestone Incentive	595,941.64	
Land Resources	115,741.99	
	2,533,526.64	3,880.48
Extension Services		
Branch Management	81,021.31	
Farm Development	163,425.78	1,857.06
District Offices	865,033.46	
Livestock Services	2,297,346.10	51,381.10
Crops	311,733.22	
Rural Development	464,279.78	6,125.15
Agriculture Education	344,539.83	
Grants	238,726.02	10,861.20
Engineering	304,155.11	
Small Farms Program	217,528.58	
Community Pastures	186,572.93	114,398.70
	5,474.362.12	184,623.21
Animal Industry Services		
Branch Management	227,437.70	2,847.00
Veterinary Pathology	728,157.56	2,398.65
Artificial Breeding	218,410.00	
Microbiology	32,632.33	
Dairy Laboratory	341,735.24	108.40
Veterinary Services	648,206.81	
Swine Inspection	70,670.60	
	2,267,250.24	5,354.05
Information	199,506.22	
P.E.I. Marketing Council	110,782,58	
P.E.I. Crop Insurance	201,244.03	
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	22,697,035.98	6,196,957.74

Under the Canada P.E.I. ERDA Agri-Food Development Agreement Agriculture Canada cost shared in the above programs and contributed $2,270,462.12 toward the costs.

P.E.I. Vegetable Growers Co-op	195.60
P.E.I. Institute of Agrologists	7,500.00
P.E.I. Women's Institute	17,500.00
P.E.I. School Milk Foundation	89,412.00
P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	51,509.08
National Farmers Union	13,585.51
Farm Centre Association	825.00
Women in Support of Agriculture	1,113.36
P.E.I. Junior Farmers	1,218.68
P.E.I. 4-H Council	33,100.00
Summerside Farmers Market	9,633.20
Charlottetown Farmers Market	15,000.00
West Prince Farmers Market	4,600.00
Souris Farmers Market	1,500.00
Wood Islands Farmers Market	949.76
Montague Farmers Market	1,500.00
Charlottetown District 4-H Council	1,200.00
Montague District 4-H Council	900.00
Souris District 4-H Council	900.00
Summerside District 4-H Council	900.00
West Prince District 4-H Council	600.00
P.E.I. Horticultural Association	12,100.00
Island Hay & Straw Co-op	34,222.47
P.E.I. Greenhouse Growers Association	2,400.00
P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board	75,662.81
Potatoes Canada	50,000.00
Canadian Horticultural Council	2,964.01
P.E.I. Tobacco Commodity Board	3,000.00
P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Association	550.00
P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Association	24,650.00
P.E.I. Potato Producers Association	445.40
P.E.I. Aberdeen Angus Association	698.03
P.E.I. Easter Beef Association	400.00
P.E.I. Draft Horse Association	1,000.00
P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board	30,100.00
P.E.I. Quality Swine	20,000.00
P.E.I. Artificial Breeders Association	200,000.00
P.E.I. Beekeepers Co-op	5,600.00
P.E.I. Dairy Goat Association	518.00
Atlantic Standardbred Breeders Association	28,564.00
P.E.I. Dairy Producers Association	279.15
P.E.I. Holstein Fresian Association	7,748.00
P.E.I. Angus Breeders Association	698.03
P.E.I. Hereford Breeders Association	1,637.00
P.E.I. Shorthorn Breeders Association	1,363.00
P.E.I. Sheep Breeders Association	497.50
P.E.I. Hunter Breeders Association	1,000.00
P.E.I. Guernsey Breeders Association	545.00
Island Quarter Horse Fraternity	5,000.00
P.E.I. Purebred Poultry Farmers	150.00
P.E.I. Swine Breeders Association	732.25
P.E.I. Ayrshire Breeders Association	2,000.00
West Prince Livestock Assembly Co-op	25,000.00
P.E.I. Bean Growers Co-op	1,455.98
P.E.I. Jersey Breeders Association	602.00
Westech Agriculture Limited	20,078.00
P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association	5,000.00
P.E.I. Cole Crop Producers Co-op	37,650.46

Notes: These payments are those support monies which were paid from Grant Accounts. If support was paid from other accounts, they will not be included here. There may also be grants paid to individuals which could also be considered grants to farm groups.